



WALAILAK UNIVERSITY

International Student Handbook



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Message from the President

The Next Lap: Striving to be a world class university

Colleagues and Friends,

It has been almost two years since my arrival in Thasala, Nakhon Si Thammarat, to take up the Presidency of Walailak University. WU is located in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province, some 800 kms South of Bangkok. It is close to one of the most famous tourist attractions in Thailand, the Island of Samui in Surat Thani. Nakhon Si Thammarat is about one-hour flight from Bangkok.

On 29th March 2018, WU celebrates the 26th anniversary of its foundation. Understandably, it has had ups and downs over those years. But all in all, WU has been able to maintain its greatest strengths in terms of quality staff, world class research, community engagement, and employability for graduates. Its strength in the area of Health Sciences is second to none in Thailand. The School of Medicine will be expanded even further when the 750-bed Hospital Center is completed at the end of 2019.



Needless to say, WU needs a lot of changes to keep up with the fast-changing world. Some changes here may have to be even quite drastic. It is a big challenge for me, but I am excited about new opportunities here. It will be very different from my previous Professorship and Presidency at the National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA) in Bangkok. I set a very high objective of internationalizing WU, which will cover all facets of the university— teaching and learning, research, staff development, you name it. I want to turn WU into a world class university!

In the past 20 months or so, I have founded an English Language institute, three international colleges: WU International College (WUIC), International College of Dentistry, and International College of Veterinary Science. These new establishments are key parts of my strategy to internationalize WU.

In the area of teaching and learning, I have adopted the world-renown UK Professional Standards Framework (UKPSF) and 60 teaching staff has received training conducted by teaching experts from the UK Higher Education Academy (HEA). All will be required to undertake the UKPSF-based training. Students whose courses are not regulated by professional bodies will be from this year required to sit Comprehensive Examinations before their graduation. From this academic year on beginning in July, students will have in addition to the already refurbished classrooms high tech “smart classrooms” to enjoy. Active learning is key to all this.

The 17 Centers of Research Excellence, covering key areas of health, medical technology, business administration and management, and social sciences, that I have set up since my arrival are now in full swing.

Obviously, all these achievements so far could not have been done without the support of my staff, academic and support. I thank them wholeheartedly for their trust and confidence in me. I thank them for their commitment and hard work. I believe I have enough experience as one of the top higher education executives in Thailand.

And no doubt, I will give it all to WU!

Prof. Dr. Sombat Thamrongthanyawong

About Walailak University

A Brief History

Walailak University opened on 29th March 1992, however, a movement by the locals to have a university in Nakhon Si Thammarat Province started some 50 years ago, in 1967. It took 12 years before Members of the Parliament from Nakhon Si Thammarat first proposed to the Parliament in 1979 a legislation to establish a university in the province. A stronger momentum gathered five years later in 1984 when a group of influential locals of Nakhok Si Thammarat set up "A Group to Campaign for a University in Nakhon Si Thammarat". Finally, in April 1990, the Cabinet passed a resolution to formally establish a university in Nakhon Si Thammarat. In February 1992, the late King, King Bhumibol Adulyadej, King Rama IX, named the University "Walailak University", after the second name of his youngest daughter, Princess Chulabhorn Walailak. On the 29th March 1992, the Late King Bhumibol Adulyadej formally approved the legislation establishing Walailak University and this date became the Foundation Day of the University.

On 23rd May 1998, some 70 high school leavers, most of whom were from Nakhon Si Thammarat and neighbouring provinces, enrolled in their classes as Walailak University students, and, five days later, on 28th May 1998, the first class began!

Walailak University is designed as a comprehensive university (with a variety of fields of study) to serve the people of Thailand. Walailak University graduates are expected to have practical intelligence, adversary quotient, Liberal Arts perspective and technology competence, all integrated with high morals. All activities are designed to enhance Walailak University's uniqueness in its ultimate goal to become "The Education Park of ASEAN" where all the global citizens can find the riches in the knowledge, wisdom and culture. In 2018 Walailak University developed an intense campaign to gain international recognition as a world class tertiary institution.

Walailak University is a residential university equipped with modern educational facilities, services and accommodation for students and staff, located against the beautiful backdrop of the Tha Sala mountain scenery. The campus is 780 kilometres south of Bangkok, a 2 1/2 hour drive from the beach resorts of Samui Island, Surat Thani and Krabi, and from the busy commercial centre and international airport of Hat Yai. Nakhon Si Thammarat is well served by daily air, train and bus services from Bangkok, Hat Yai, Phuket, and Malaysia. The University has a total area of 3,600 acres, making it the largest campus of any university in Thailand. Besides the main campus at Tha Sala, Walailak also has a coordinating office in Bangkok and a service centre in neighbouring Surat Thani province.

Walailak's Vision

Advocating Good Governance, Serving as Sources of Knowledge, Being Community-minded, and Striving for International Recognition for Excellence

The Walailak Brand



The official Walailak University brand uses the traditional emblem in conjunction with the name of the University in English; this design is in keeping with the historical importance of the university while embracing our future international expansion.



em

At the centre of the University Emblem is, CB (Jor Por), the abbreviation of the name of Princess Chulabhorn Walailak, which is placed under a coronet. The C (Jor) is coloured orange, and the B (Por), white. They are set on a purple background, surrounded by a band of white and golden colours, on which the name "Walailak University" is featured

The Walailak Colours



Orange is the colour of Thursday, Princess Chulabhorn's birthday

Purple is the colour of the Province of Nakhon Si Thammarat, which is in turn adopted from the colour of Phra Rattanachatmuni (Muang Rattanathatcho), a late Abbot of Wat Tha Pho, regarded as the centre of modern education in the South of Thailand during the reign of King Chulalongkorn (1853-1910)

The Tree of Walailak



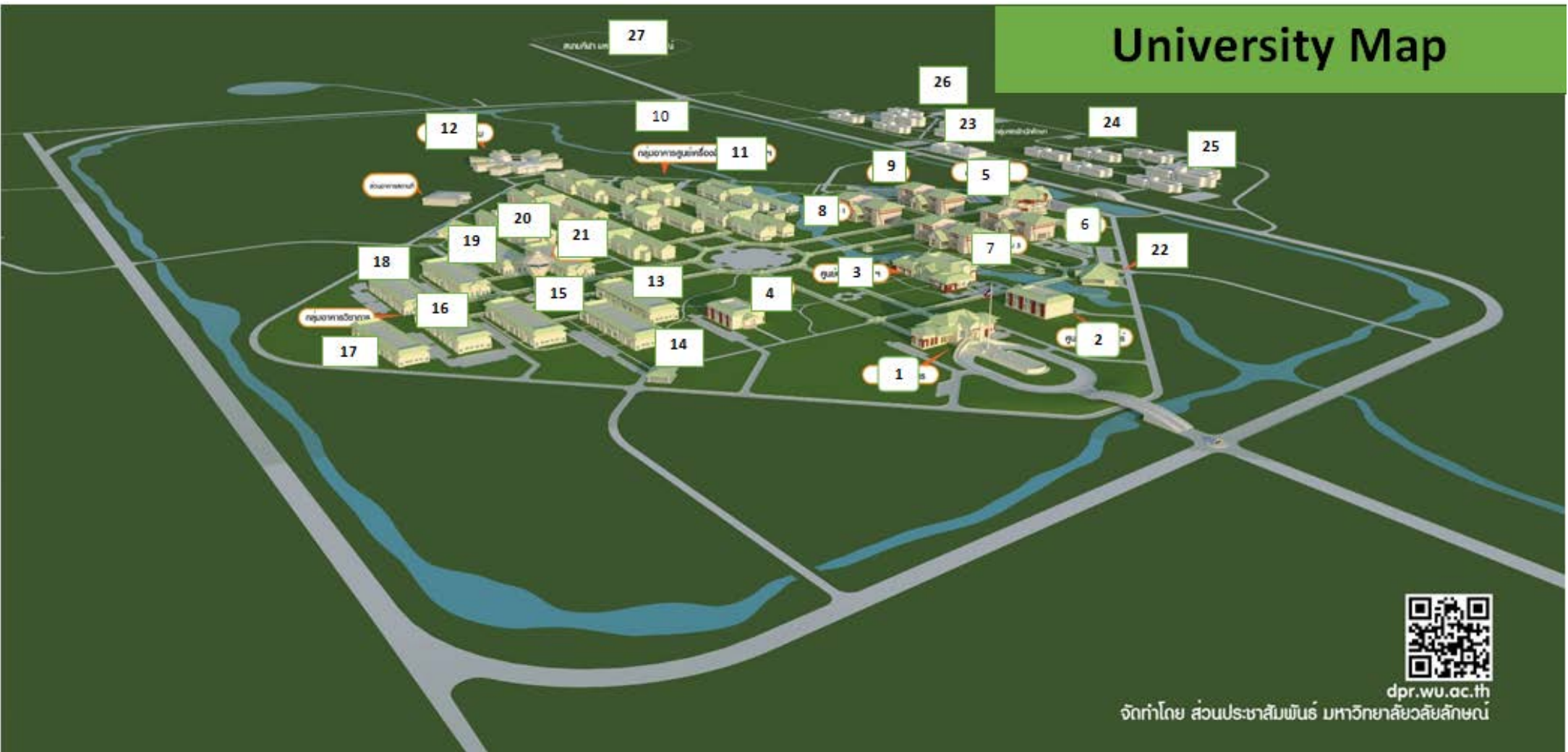
Walailak University has adopted the Padauk Tree as its symbol. The tree's scientific name is "Pterocarpus Macrocarpus". The tree is typical of tropical rain forest, known to be widespread in the South of Thailand. Padauk trees are popular particularly in Nakhon Si Thammarat. They once stood prominently in front of the official residence of Governor of Nakhon Si Thammarat.

WU Research

Hospital

Walailak University has opened Walailak University Hospital at Research Institute for health science building to serve University Employees, Students and the general public and also support the education, research, Academic services to Health science school of the University. The Walailak University hospital was opened on 24th February 2017. Follow by the Walailak University hospital construction policy in 2010, the government have allocated the budget for contraction in the amount of 5,600 million baht on the area of 648,000 sq.m. and start construction around March 2016. the hospital will have 7 building which is Building A, B, C, D, E and F the estimated time that the construction will be finish is in 2019. The hospital are designed to support patient for more than 1,000,000 person/year after that construction finished on 2019 and will be ready for open for service in 2020 and will have amount of the patient bed 750 bed and will opening for service in the first stage which will have a health service in a Complex diseases and use the highest medical device and Educate and research by using these technology including establish 4 Center of Excellence service which is 1. Heart Center 2. Cancer Center 3. Skin Center 4. Elderly Center and will be the center for transfer the patient from other hospitals in the north part of the south of Thailand.

University Map



dpr.wu.ac.th

จัดทำโดย ส่วนประชาสัมพันธ์ มหาวิทยาลัยวลัยลักษณ์

Green Campus

The beautiful, green environment of Walailak University's campus is perfect for study. Students may study and relax amidst a cool and pleasant atmosphere and enjoy features such as the university's beautiful botanical gardens. Bicycling around the campus is one activity promoted by the University to save energy and reduce air pollution.

Green Transport – Walailak University has introduced electric shuttle cars in keeping with the 'Green' campaign and to provide a transport service for staff and student while on campus.

1. Administration Building

- Office of University Council
- Office of President
- The Center for international Affairs
- Division of Human Resources and Organization Development
- Division of finance and Accounting
- Division of Property and Supplies
- Organizational Community Division



2. The Center for Computer Service

3. The Center for Library Resource and Educational Media



The Center for Library Resources and Educational Media features:

- Printed materials
- Audio visual materials
- Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC)
- Online Database
- E-books
- Study section rooms
- Meeting rooms
- Mini theatre
- Coffee shop
- Muslim Prayer room
- Computer rooms

Library Operation time

During semester:

- Monday - Friday 8:30 am. – 9:00 pm
- Saturday - Sunday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Three weeks before final exam until semester break:

- Monday - Friday 8:30 am. – 12:00 pm
- Saturday - Sunday 10.00 A.M- 6.00 P.M

Semester break:

- Monday - Friday 8:30 am. – 4:30 pm
- Saturday - Sunday and Holiday - Closed

WU Book Centre (located between the library and the Thaiburi Auditorium)

The Book Centre serves to provide the latest academic publications, including textbooks produced by the University's own staff, as well as other more academic publications. Among the items available for sale are Thai and English textbooks, reference books, Walailak University Press publications, note books, magazines, stationery, mobile phones, computers and accessories. The bookshop also sells university souvenirs, refreshments and supply of the undergraduate student uniform.

Opening Hours:

Monday - Friday from 8:30am to 16:30pm

Location: Total School Building 5

Tel: 0 7567 3650 – 1

4. Research Building

5. Thaiburi Auditorium

- The Center for Cooperative Educational and Career Development
- The Center for Educational Service
- Graduate School Office
- Auditorium
- Division of Student Affairs



Thaiburi Auditorium has a capacity of 1,500 seats is used for lectures, academic meetings and graduation day ceremonies.

Lecture Buildings (Aa KharnReanRaum) - There are four lecture buildings no.1, 3, 5, and 7. Each lecture building consists of two - three hundred-seat classrooms, three - one hundred and fifty-seat classrooms, four - seventy five-seat classrooms and four - forty five-seat classrooms.

The fully air-conditioned lecture rooms have modern teaching facilities, well equipped teaching technologies, visualizers, PowerPoint projection facilities and online computers.



6. Lecture building 5

- WU Book Center
- Copy Shop

7. Lecture building 7



8. Lecture building 1

9. Lecture Building 3



10. The Center for Scientific and Technological Equipment



Laboratories

Science Laboratories - In addition to the existing research facilities for faculty members, the university operates modern, fully-equipped science laboratories for undergraduate and postgraduate research programs in science and technology. Research facilities are also provided for academic service activities. All laboratories provide internet access and video conferencing systems to facilitate long-distance teaching and learning activities. One of the university missions is to produce intellectual health sciences graduates to serve community needs. In pursuit of this mission, the university also provides health sciences laboratories to facilitate students of health science and nursing.

11. Anatomy Building

The anatomy lab is well-equipped for medical students in their pursuit of anatomical knowledge. Computer Laboratories state-of-the-art online computers and laptops (with Wi-Fi hi-speed wireless internet access) are available on the campus area to support the University's teaching and learning as well as training and research activities.

12. Innovation Building (Science Park)

The nine academic buildings (C1-C9) are used for each school's administrative office and other purposes.



13. Academic Building 1 (C1)

- School of Science
- School of Liberal Arts

15. Academic Building 3 (C3)

- School of Management
- School of Informatics

17. Academic Building 9 (C9)

- School of Pharmacy
- School of Medicine

19. Academic Building 6 (6)

- School of Architect and Design
- Open house Studio

21. Academic building 8 (C8)

- School of Allied Health Science

14. Academic Building 2 (C2)

- School of Public Health
- School of Nursing

16. Academic Building 4 (C4)

- School of Engineering and Resources
- School of Agricultural Technology

18. Walailak University Language Institute (C5)

20. Walailak University Science Park (C7)

22. Cafeteria 4 (Open Mon-Fri 8-12 A.M.)

23. Cafeteria 1 (Open Every Day 8-12 A.M.)

24. Night Cafeteria (Food Center Open 12-8 P.M.)

25. Student Dormitories

A detailed description of student accommodation has been included in the Student Handbook.



26. Gymnasium

27. Sport Center

A detailed description of the Sports and Health Centre has been included below.



University Farm (Smart Farm Centre)

Located in the western section of the campus on 2,000 rai (800 acres) of land, the University Farm is designed to provide practical teaching and research facilities for the courses and programs in the School of Agricultural Technology and other Schools. Students gain practical work experience in the application of modern and appropriate technology in their fields of study, which complements and reinforces their understanding of theoretical knowledge acquired in lectures and seminars. The farm also provides demonstration models and experimental projects in the delivery of academic and technical services to the local and regional communities. It also operates as a self-supporting business and income earner for the University.

Student Orientation / Processes

Example of Orientation - this procedure may change slightly however, there will be an Orientation Guide to accompany you through the enrolment process.

Date	Time and Activities	Place	Person Responsible
Saturday, June 16, 2018	07.00 New students report to the dormitory.	Eco Laksa	Dormitory
	10.00 Parents welcome	Thaiburi Hall	Innovation Center
	13.00 Introduction to the Dean and Faculty	School building	Innovation Center
	13.00 New Student Dorm Meeting	New Student Dorm Meeting	Dormitory
	14.30 Parents visit – lab, activities and campus tour	Office Building university space	Department and related agencies
	15.00 New Students Meet Group Mentors	Thaiburi Hall	The rank
	17.00 Dining room		
Sunday, June 17, 2018	09.00 New students in Thai language test	Total school buildings Library of Congress	Languages and institutions
	13.00 New Mathematics Test New English Speaking Skills Exam		
	16.00 Relax		
Monday, June 18, 2018	09.00 New students take the test of English	Total school buildings Library of Congress	Languages and institutions
	13.00 New English Speaking Skills Exam		
	16.00 Relax		
Tuesday 19 - Saturday 23 June 2018	09.00 English Speaking Skills Exam, join the Learning Resource Center and activities to promote learning and living skills.	Library	Language institute library
	13.00 English Speaking Skills Exam, join the Learning Resource Center and activities to promote learning and living skills.		
	16.00 Break		
	18.00 Recreation activity	Notice later	
	21.00 Relax		
Sunday, June 24, 2018	Safety training in the laboratory (School Group Health Sciences / Science & Technology)	Notice later	Tool Center - Science
Monday, June 25, 2018	09.00 New Student Orientation	Thaiburi Hall	The rank
	13.00 New Student Registration		The rank
Tuesday, June 26, 2018	09.00 New students find various centers (Medical Center, Building Division, Digital Technology Center)		The rank
	13.00 New students visit the Educational Service Center		The rank
Wednesday, June 27, 2018	09.00 New Students visit Student Affairs		The rank
	13.00 New Students meet Advisors (Afternoon)		Professors
Thursday, 28th - Saturday, June 30, 2018	Group activities		Wait according to Activity Details
Monday, July 2, 2018.	Open semester		

Orientation Follow-up:

Your guide will provide you with information about the student support services and a number you can contact for further support while you are settling in to university life:

- Group Counselling – Student Affairs
- Academic and Career Counselling
- Doctor appointments - Health Clinic located at the hospital

New Student Orientation Day

- Thursday, June 25, 2018 09.00 - 12.00 hrs. at Thaiuri Hall Walailak University Nakhon Si Thammarat
- Student Dress

New Student Registration

- Thursday, June 25, 2018 13.00 - 16.00 hrs. at Thaiburi Hall Walailak University Nakhon Si Thammarat
- Dress modestly
- Monday, July 2, 2018

Record new student records through the website. To apply for student registration.

Recording of new student records requires a Username and Password.

- Username is the student ID of each person.
- Password for login is last 5 digits of the ID, such as 000000045321

The password is 45321.

Record new student records. Students must record through. <http://ces.wu.ac.th/newentry> and

new students will have to complete the history records through the website. May 1st to

June 12, 2016 through the website <http://ces.wu.ac.th/newentry>. Check the accuracy of the information and print it out for submission on the date of the new student registration form on June 25, 2011.

Please complete your history record, your registration is not complete until this has been done. You will be enrolled into classes as soon as your registration is complete.

New students will be required to complete the Student History Record at <http://ces.wu.ac.th/newentry>. From May 16, 2018 to June 12, 2018 (students must print out records and important documents).

Application form is available on the day of the new student registration on June 25, 2018. This will be the key information used in issuing the transcript or student certificates.

Ask the students to check the accuracy of the information again.

The steps to complete a history record through the website are as follows.

- 1.) Visit the website (<http://ces.wu.ac.th/newentry>)
- 2.) Click the Login button, enter student ID and password and click the check button.
- 3.) On the History Records page. There will be 4 windows.

3.1 General Information

3.2 Education

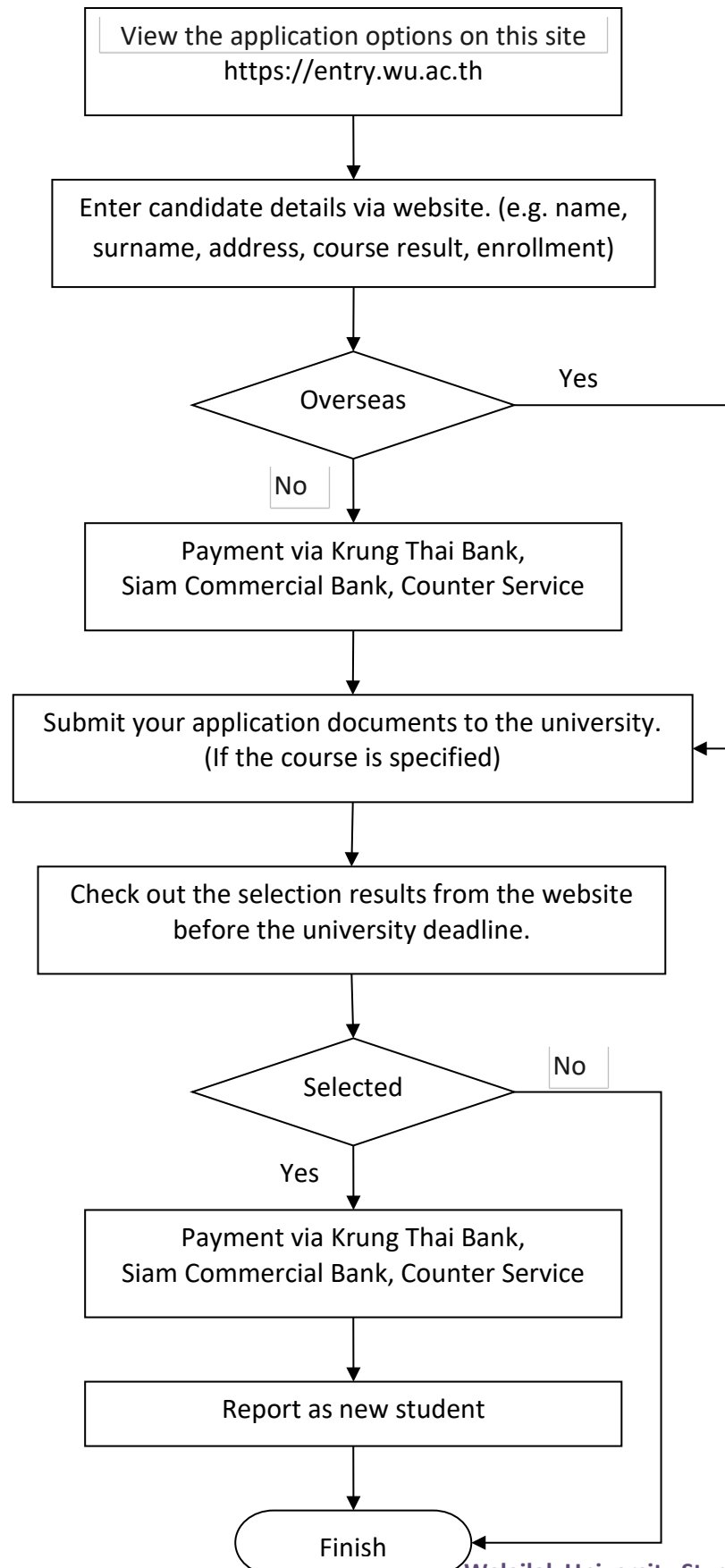
3.3 Parents

3.4 Addresses

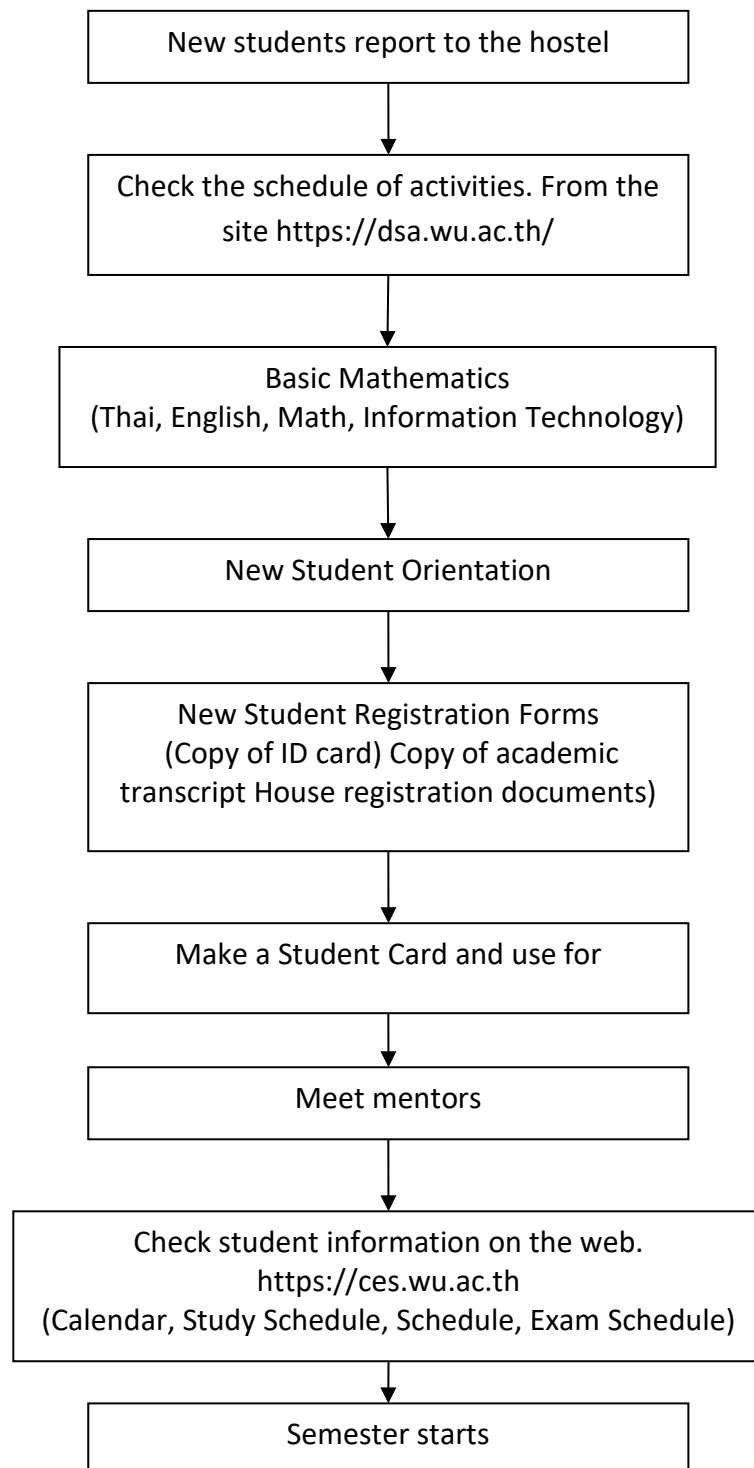
** Students choose to fill in any page before. But every time to go to fill in the next page.

The SAVE button must be pressed before proceeding to the next page. Otherwise, the student will be cleared. **

Application process for admission to Walailak University



New student reporting process



Proof of Enrolment

Proof of enrolment to enrol new students. Order in the following order.

1. (Printed from website) 1 set
2. A copy of ID card
3. Copies of academic record (P1: 4)
 - a. (Must be the school issued at the end of the semester only (semester 6)
 - b. The manuscript should be presented to the staff on the day of the new student registration.)
4. A copy of important change of name (if any).

note

1. New Student Registration Forms Ask the students to bring the evidence to show.
If the evidence is not complete or accurate. Will not accept new student registration.
2. All copies of documents must be A4-sized and be duly signed.

Student ID

For new students Information needs to be prepared for use. Make a new student card.

Information from the Institute	Student Information
Institution Name	ID Card
School	ID Card Expiration
Branch	Gender
Student's ID number	Blood type
ID card or Passport	Phone number
Prefixes (Thai)	Email
Thai name)	Address by registration
Last name (Thai)	Contact address
Prefix (English)	Card number (Laser ID)
English name	
Last name (English)	
Date of Birth	
How many years?	

Undergraduate Uniform Requirements

Student dress for Undergraduates

Walleye students have two dresses depending on the situation.

1. The ceremonial dress, which is composed on the day of ceremonies, consists of:

1. Men's ceremonial dress

- Long sleeved shirt with no pattern Double pleated back (left hand) with left pocket Put on your shirt. Rear arms
- Tie Necktie University Printing
- The navy blue trousers have two pleats on each side.
- Black heeled shoes with black heel with a shoe strap. Socks

2. Female Ceremony Dress

- white shirt with short sleeves There is no patterned back. University of thick fabric. I put the shirt in the skirt.
- The navy blue skirt with no knee length down to 1 inch longitudinal
- Brooch University brooch at left chest.
- Black leather high heel (Cushion) high heel not more than 3 inches

3. Islamic Women's Ceremony - white shirt with long sleeves Rear (Like a typical women's formal dress). - Long sleeveless black skirt - White without pattern - Link University Clasp the brooch on the left chest cover. - Black leather high heel (Cushion) high heel not more than 3 inches

2. Student's Uniform for New Student or FRESHY 1. FRESHY MEN - Long sleeved shirt with no pattern Put on your shirt. - Navy blue trousers - Black Leather Belt Buckle marked University - Black leather shoes with a shoe strap. Socks

2. FRESHY FASHION KIT - white shirt with short sleeves There is no patterned back. University of thick fabric. I put the shirt in the skirt. (Like a formal dress) - University Clasp - Black skirt with no pattern, knee length down to 1 inch, cut back together. - Black Leather Belt Buckle marked University - Heavyweight white heeled shoes with heel height not exceeding 1 inch - no white socks

3. FRESHY FEMALE FASHION WOMAN - white shirt with long sleeves Rear (Like a typical women's formal dress). - Long sleeveless black skirt - White without pattern - Link University Clasp the brooch on the left chest cover. - Heavyweight white heeled shoes with heel height not exceeding 1 inch

Note 1. If you have any questions. Or not understand Can ask at Student Organization Administration Organization Tel. 0 7567 3000 0 7538 4000 ext. 4004 fax 0 7567 3146 2. Marking apparel and school supplies. Buy at the Walailak University Book Center. Tel. 0 7567 3650 -1



Female ceremony

Men's formal dresses

FRESHLY Women's Suit

Accommodation

Please note: The costs stated are a price guide only, while they were accurate at the time of printing they are subject to change.

Student Accommodation

Dormitories

The University manages 12 residential halls: 9 for female students and 3 for male students. The halls provide on-campus accommodation for about 5,000 students. Each hall of residence contains 2-bed, 3-bed or 4-bed rooms, a computer room, a study room, a reading room, prayer rooms for students of Buddhist and Islamic faith, a television room, and a recreational room. Facilities and services for residents include a Halls of Residence Office, a mini-mart, a beauty and hairdressing salon, a bookshop, laundry service, cafeterias, a night food center, and banking and postal services.

Students can choose to live on campus in the dormitories or off in private apartments. First year students are encouraged to live on campus until they are fully integrated into university life.

- dorm The university arranges student dormitories as a learning community. Living and caring (Living, Learning and Caring Center). The following services and benefits are provided in each dormitory:

1. Dormitory consultants are consulted by a group of dormitories and can be contacted 24 hours a day.
2. Have a 24-hour security guard
3. Have a housewife clean the common area of the dormitory.

4. There are comfortable, clean and safe rooms.
There are central activity rooms, computer rooms with wireless internet, function room, ironing room and TV room
5. Home medicine services are available with first aid facilities and the ambulance service is 24 hours
6. Newspaper service available. Hot and cold water
7. There is a public telephone in the hostel / telephone within the hotel

Reservation of Dormitory

New students wishing to stay at university dormitories. Dormitory payment of 2,700 Baht

- For new students who have paid their reservation by May 18, 2018.

, they can log on to the website. <http://dsa.wu.ac.th/freshybook> To select a room, select a room and select a roommate. May 22-25, 2018.

Reported to the hostel

- Monday, June 16, 2018

07.00 - 12.00 at each dormitory reporting point (details can be found on the website.

<http://dsa.wu.ac.th/freshybook>) or Facebook: Walleye Hall

- Dress modestly.



The University emphasize on developing students capability that why the Students dormitory are more than an accommodation, with the propose to make it to be a Living, Learning and Caring Centre to support the accommodation environment to be part that supports the learning, support students to have a responsibility, respect each other right, learn to live in the community, have a responsibility in the community and live a happy life in the university.

There are three levels of dormitory available (the prices listed are approximate and subject to change):

1. Superior – ฿2.700 for a 3 month term
2. Suite – ฿4.500 for a 3 month term
3. Deluxe – ฿4.800 for a 3 month term

In 2019 four new dormitories will be constructed and one of these residential hostels will be the new International House (Deluxe).

There are private apartments available on the road to Tha Sala; these apartments will cost between ฿ 6.000 and ฿10.000 per month, however it is possible to share with up to three other students to make the cost more economical.

Services system and dormitory welfare:

- There are security guards for 24 hours
- The common room is cleaned by the housekeeper.
- The rooms are comfortable, clean, and secure
- There are activity rooms such as computer room, study room, prayer room, ironing room, television room
- There are first aid kit and 24 hours ambulance service
- There are newspapers and hot and cold water services
- There are public telephone and internal telephone services
- Activities for enhancing the quality of life
- Activities for the freshman student in order to enhance the quality of life
- Dormitory coordinator centre
- There are ATM machine at student activity building, Thaiburi building, lecturers building 5
- There is both indoor and outdoor sports centre such as football, basketball, tennis and swimming pool
- There are canteens throughout day and night
- There are WU book centre, supermarket, and laundry shop.
- Convenience store

Requirement on Report to dormitory day

1. Three, 1 inch ID photos of student in university uniform

2. Personal belonging

- Pillow/Pillow case
- Blanket
- Window Curtain
- 3.5 feed bed sheet
- cabinet padlock
- Bloom/Mop/dust pan/garbage bin
- Shoes shelf

3. Electric appliances that can use in dormitory

- Computer with the extension cable
- Fan (Size is not over 16 inch)

Initial Costs before Arrival

If you require additional support in these areas, please contact the Centre for International Affairs for assistance.

- Passport
- Visa
- Flights

Average living cost per month - Estimated monthly cost – 8,000bht – 10.000bht

- Food – 5,000bht
 - Transport
 - Laundry
 - Sport
 - Social Activity
- } 2 – 3,000bht
- Accommodation – Dormitory – 1,000bht
 - Apartments – 6 – 10,000bht (share up to 4 persons)

Successful scholarship applicants will receive free accommodation, free tuition and a small allowance to cover living costs while they are studying at WU.

Transport

Transport to Walailak University (Nikhon Si Thammarat)

The most convenient way to travel to Nikhon Si Thammarat is to fly, however you can also use road transport for the 800km trip from Bangkok. Tickets can be purchased online or through a travel agent. Please inform your contact at Walailak University of your travel arrangements and we will ensure there is a representative of the International team to escort you to the university.

Flights leave from the Don Mueang (DMK) domestic airport terminal and the ticket prices range between ฿950 and ฿2,000 one way; the average flight time is 1 hour and 15 minutes. Air travel between Bangkok - Nakhon Si Thammarat Round trip - 4 - 6 times daily by Air Asia. Nok Air Thai Airways International The schedule is as follows.

Trains leave from Hua Lamphong Station and the ticket prices range between ฿650 and ฿2,000 one way; the average journey will take 16 hours and 20 minutes. The easiest way to get to Hua Lamphong Station is to take the **MRT subway to Hua Lamphong**, It's the last station down the line (opposite to Bang Sue) – Address: 191 Rong Mueang Rd, Khwaeng Rong Muang, Khet Pathum Wan, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon. Train travel <http://www.railway.co.th>

Buses leave from the Southern Terminal of Bangkok Station and the ticket prices range between ฿600 and ฿950 one way; the average journey will take between 11 and 13 hours. The Express Bus leaves from Bangkok station at 7.30pm and arrives in Nakhon Si Thammarat station at 10.55am (Time to train Subject to change). There are motorbike taxi's and minibuses available to travel to the Walailak campus. The fare is about 35 baht each.

Transport around the Campus

In keeping with the 'Green' initiative, Walailak University has introduced electric shuttle cars for the convenience of staff and students during peak periods. This service will be scheduled for specific times during the day to shuttle staff and students between university locations.



Transport off Campus

Songthaew's and mini busses leave from Walailak University daily for local and long distance trips. The local bus stop/station is located across the road from Cafeteria 1 (by the 7-Eleven) close to Academic Building 1.

The songthaew (share taxi, pronounced song-ta-oo) leaves every 10 minutes on a round trip between Walailak and the Thasala markets, you can ask them to drop you off on route (i.e. TESCO's) and you can hail them again when you want to return to the university campus. The service is open from 7:30am to 4:30pm every day (5:00pm on Fridays) at a cost of 10 baht.



Mini buses are available to the cities of Nakhon Si Thammarat, Krabi and Phuket.

Nakhon Si Thammarat – the mini busses leave every half an hour, from, 7:30am to 4:30 pm (5:00pm on Fridays) at a cost of 40 baht.

Krabi – the mini busses leave every hour between 7:30am and 3:00pm at a cost of 240 baht.

Phuket – the mini busses leave every hour between 7:30am and 3:00pm at a cost of 390 baht.



Personal Transport

If students bring a motorcycle or a car to the university they must have a motorbike or car licence and the vehicle must be in satisfactory running order. In the absence of a licence The university will organise internal training and conduct the written exams.

Medical and Counselling Services

Health Service

Walailak University Hospital is located close to the main entrance of the university.

Opening times: Monday to Friday - 9:00am to 6:00pm

Student Accident Insurance - The university has provided accident insurance for students. All accident cases are covered throughout the school year. The medical expenses are 12,000 baht per accident and the accident is 120,000 baht in case of death. Get paid for the cremation of 10,000 baht.

When students have an accident they can be admitted to public and private hospitals. Students must pay upfront medical expenses and provide the following documents for insurance purposes:

1. Copy of ID Card / Student ID Card
2. The actual receipt
3. Medical certificate

Division of Student Affairs

(support for students outside educational requirements)

Academic and Career Counselling

Academic and Career Counseling helps students choose the courses and programs of study that are most suited to their own personal interests and ability. Prior to gaining work experience under the Cooperative Education program students take part in a special training course to prepare them for the world of work, which includes such topics as applying for a job, preparing a resumé, practicing for a job interview, and workplace behavior and practice. The Academic and Careers Counseling service also disseminates information about further study opportunities at the postgraduate level at both national and overseas institutions of higher education, as well as about employment prospects after graduation.

Group Counselling

Group Counseling is usually organised through the dormitories and includes group activities to enhance self-awareness and social skills for successful community living.

Telephone Counselling

Telephone Counseling is provided through the WU Hopeline by voluntary trained counselors, from 09.00 to 20.00 on weekdays.

Individual Counselling

Professional Individual Counseling can be arranged by the University to help individual students solve personal problems and to develop decision-making skills. The service is available Monday – Friday, from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Student Affairs Office.

Sports and Health Centre

The sporting complex is well appointed with a wide variety of sporting facilities including:

- Badminton Courts
- Volleyball Court
- Futsal Field
- Football Fields
- Tennis
- Table Tennis
- Musical room
- Dancing Room
- Sauna
- Fitness Centre – with modern gym equipment
- Gymnasium – for indoor sports
- Petanque Lawns (similar to boule or lawn bowls)
- Stadium – track and field with a rubberised running track
- Olympic size Swimming Pool (50 metres long and 2 metres deep)
- Family sized pool (25 metres long) – 2nd pool
- Golf – driving range

Swimming Pools



Opening times: 3:00am – 9:00pm every day except holidays

Service procedure and Regulations

- Swimming costumes for both men and women need to fully cover the body.
- Show the member card along with register and pay for service every time you use the swimming pools service.
- Shower, wash your hair and feet to be clean before entering the swimming pools also wear a swimming suit and swimming hat every time while entering swimming pools.
- Do not wear shoes or bring food and drink into swimming pool area and do not pass urine or spit in the swimming pools.

- People who have a contagious illness and/or open wounds and woman on menstruation are not allowed to use the swimming pools.
- Do not use the swimming pools while during heavy rain and thunderstorms.
- Do not run or throw items which can harm or disturb other members.
- Member should take a responsibility for their belongings and themselves. Small children have to have guardian or trainer inspect with. The swimming pool will not take responsibility for the loss of property.
- The swimming pool authorities have the right refuse entrance to members not following the swimming pool regulations.

Tennis

Opening Hours:

Monday – Friday & Sunday: 3:00pm – 11:00pm

Saturday: closed



Procedure and Regulation for using services:

1. Present your membership card and sign every time you use the service
2. Pay the service fee
3. Wear appropriate sport clothing and shoes
4. Do not bring food into the area
5. Do not bring pets into the area
6. The University has the right to refuse entry to any person behaving in an inappropriate manner

Indoor sports



Walailak University boasts a world class Fitness Centre with a full range of gym equipment available to both staff and students.



Football Field

Opening Hours:

Monday – Friday & Sunday: 3:00pm – 11:00pm

Saturday: closed.

Golf Driving Range

Opening Hours:

Monday – Friday & Sunday: 3:00pm – 9:00pm

Saturday: closed

Shops and Services

Bank Services

Campus Bank - Government Savings Bank is open for students at the Thaiburi Building, the main hall which has services as a list below:

1. Deposit, Transfer and only money withdraw and do a financial instrument service as same as other commercial banks.
2. Loan Processing services for all type of bank
3. Fee Collection service for Student Registration and Dormitory fee
4. Do ATM card which can withdraw money from a different branch but not an ATM pool that can withdraw money with other bank ATM

Campus Bank - KrungThai Bank

ATM service at Thaiburi Building in the main hall and in front of Division of Student Affairs.

Banks in Thasala - Two banks are available in the TESCO shopping centre in Thasala, (Bangkok Bank and SCB) both of these banks are open from 10am every day of the week (including weekends) and close 7pm.

Please note: The ability to use your credit/debit or travel card is limited, therefore you should carry Thai Baht ฿ in cash for small purchases. The ATM machines charge high fees when using a credit/debit card (and you may be charged a second time from your home bank), therefore it is preferable to use your travel card and/or withdraw money directly from the bank (open weekends).

Campus Post Office

Located in the Thaiburi Building in the main hall and in front of Division of Student Affairs.

Shops available on Walailak University campus

1. Minimart – There are two minimarts on campus: Familymart (at the Night Market complex) and the 7-Eleven (close to student dormitories and Cafeteria no. 1)
2. Laundry service – (at the Night Market complex), however each dormitory has approximately seven washing machines and there are laundry services available outside campus on the road to Thasala
3. Stationary Store

Please note: The Night Market is being renovated and some services will be moved temporarily during 2018.

Shops in Tha Sala – TESCO Lotus is the main shopping centre and reasonably close to the university (6.5 km), TESCO's is a combined supermarket/department store with a variety of shops in the centre including: banks, make-up, jewellers, stationary, KFC and food court. To get there travel toward Tha Sala, turn left at the main T junction and continue for approximately 2km.

Canteen and food store are provided as a list below:

There is a wide variety of authentic Thai food on WU campus with very reasonable prices (average meal costs ฿30 – ฿50); all food complexes have Halal options available.



1. Cafeteria No. 4 (close to the Computer Centre)
Open Monday - Friday (Close on Saturday and Sunday)
Opening times: 6:30am – 2:00pm
2. Cafeteria No. 1 (close to the Activity Building) – wide variety of Halal foods
Open every day including holidays
Opening times: 6:30am – 3:00pm
3. Night Cafeteria (soon to be renovated)
Open every day: 12:00pm – 10:00pm
4. Student Market – every Monday: 4:00pm – 10:00pm near Cafeteria no. 1
5. Food stalls are open along the road to Thasala in the afternoons/evenings
6. There are four coffee shops on campus that sell cakes and drinks (hot and cold):
 - Café Amazon – this small coffee shop is located next to Cafeteria No. 4, this is a pleasant place to relax and read - Coffee ฿60 and cakes ฿40 – ฿60. Open every day: 7:00am – 4:00pm
 - Coffee Shop in the library building – pleasant interior with modern décor, a great place to meet with friends.
 - Coffee Shop in the Innovation Centre – average sized coffee shop with several indoor tables.
 - Coffee Shop in the Research building – small stand in the centre of the building with tables

Cultural Camps

Cultural camps are open to Thai university students and non-Thai students or graduates under 30 years of age. Participants must be able to communicate well in English.

Throughout the 8-day program, camp participants will have opportunity to EXPLORE Nakhon Si Thammarat Province, the historical city on the eastern part of southern Thailand, and Bangkok, the capital city of Thailand, EXCHANGE cultures, ENGAGE in various activities among global youth, and ENJOY every moment together.



Tourist Attractions in the Nakhon Si Thammarat region

Walailak University

- Historical Site
- Botanical Gardens

Thasala District (Walailak University is in the Tha Sala District of Nakhon Si Thammarat)

- **Wat Khao Khun Phanom** – Buddhist temple in Ban Ko, Thailand
(35 km S/W of Walailak University – 35 min drive or 3hr 25 minute (16.9km) walking trail)
- **อนุสาวรีย์วีรไทย จังหวัดนครศรีธรรมราช พ่อเจ้าดำ Monument in Tambon Pak Phun** –
(21 km South of Walailak University – 30 min drive)
- **Ban Song Phraek Museum** –
(5 km from Walailak University – 60 min walk)
- **Phrom Lok Waterfall** –
(28 km S/W of Walailak University – 35 min drive or a 4 hour walk)
- **Su Nan Tha Waterfall** –
(33 km S/E of Walailak University – 38 min drive or a 5.5 hour walk)
- **Ban Plai Uan Waterfall** –
(30 km S/W of Walailak University – 40 min drive or a 4.5 hour walk)
- **น้ำตกหนานเตย Waterfall** –
(55 km S/E of Walailak University – 40 min drive or a 8 hour walk)
- **Hat Sai Kaeo Beach** –
(12 km N/E of Walailak University – 19 min drive or a 2 hour walk)
- **Hat Sa Bua Beach** –
(13 km East of Walailak University – 19 min drive or a (9km) 2 hour walk)
- **Hummingbird's Beach** –
- **Thale Mok View Point** –
(29 km S/E of Walailak University – 35 min drive or a 6 hour walk)
- **Wat Moklan Archaeological Site** –
(12 km South of Walailak University – 18 min drive or a 2 hour walk)
- **Khao Kha, Archaeological site, temple** –
(34 km North of Walailak University – 35 min drive or a 6.5 hour walk)
- **Khao Ka Ancient Remains (Archaeological museum in Sao Phao)** –
- **เสมาหินทรายแดงวัดโพธาราม Historical Landmark** –
- **พิพิธภัณฑ์หาดทรายแก้ว**
(13 km N/E of Walailak University – 19 min drive or a (10.5km) 2.5 hour walk)

➤ **Fish Laver –**

(27 km S/W of Walailak University – 36 min drive or a (22km) 4.5 hour walk)

This beautiful freshwater stream is famous for an abundance of fish during the migration season.



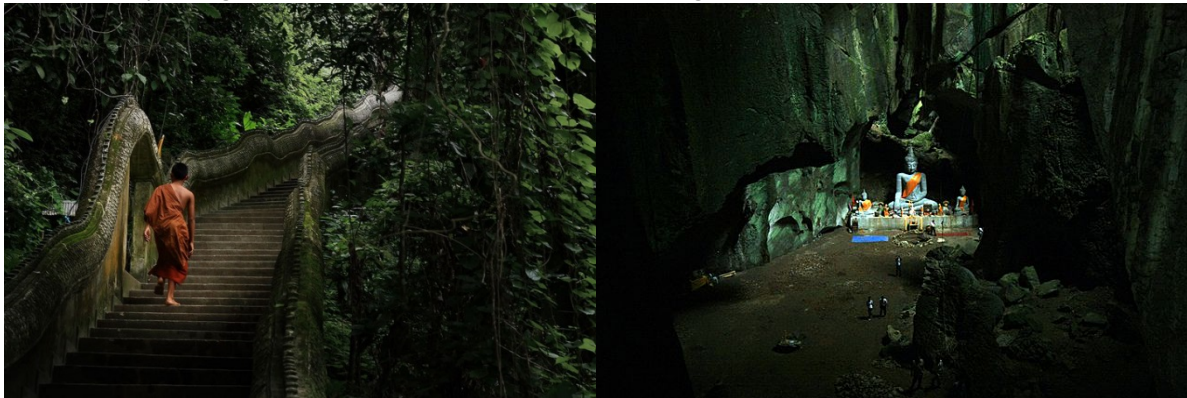
➤ **Khao Khun Phanom Scienetific Study Centre –**

➤ **Muang Nakhon Reception House –**

➤ **Wat Khao Khun Phanom –**

(22 km S/W of Walailak University – 35 min drive or a (17km) 3.5 hour walk)

The stairway leads to an impressive cave/temple with 30 bronze Buddha images and a bronze Buddha's footprint inside the mountain. Many believe this is where King Taksin the Great entered his monkhood. Others say it was the rest stop of Princess Kesini, daughter of Chao Nara Suriyawong, the lord of Nakhon Si Thammarat during 1769-1776.



Historical Site (on Walailak campus) –

Local Events

<http://www.thaiembassy.com/thailand/thailand-festival.php>

- Songkran

Songkran is the most important event on the Buddhist calendar, this water festival marks the beginning of the traditional Thai New Year. The Thai New Year's Day is 13 April every year, but the holiday period includes 14–15 April as well. Most Thai people go back to their hometowns to meet their elders during this time.

Nakhon Si Thammarat - Areas of Interest

Nakhon Si Thammarat lies 780 kilometers south of Bangkok along the Gulf of Thailand which is the second largest province in southern of Thailand. Nakhon Si Thammarat is an important center of Thai Buddhism maybe as early as the Srivijaya Period or earlier in the 3rd century C.E. Besides center of Thai Buddhism, Nakhon Si Thammarat still to be a major region of trade between merchants from the Indian, Arabic, Dvaravati, and Champa states and later for merchants from British, Portuguese and Dutch empires.

In addition to its great history, Nakhon Si Thammarat boasts many undeveloped beaches as well as two national parks within an interior of verdant jungles abundant with luxuriant vegetation, beautiful waterfalls, and exotic wildlife. Nakhon Si Thammarat city contains many Muslim, Buddhist and Hindu temples and is an excellent place to see a performance of Thai nǎng tǎlung featuring handmade shadow puppets, a performance art the region is famed for. In fact, both Thai nǎng tǎlung (shadow play) and lǎkhon (Thai classical dance-drama) art forms were developed in Nakhon.

Nakhon Si Thammarat, the second largest province in the south, lies 780 kilometers south of Bangkok. The capital of Nakhon Si Thammarat is one of the most ancient cities in Thailand, formerly the capital of the Kingdom of Ligor, which was an independent kingdom for many centuries and a historical center of Buddhism in ancient Thailand. Today Nakhon Si Thammarat is renowned for its shadow puppets, its beautiful countryside, and its beautiful and diverse temple architecture.

Historical Sites

Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan

Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan is located on Ratchadamnoen Road in Tambon Nai Muang. This is a royal temple of the first class. Formerly named Wat Phra Borom That, this is one of the most important historical sites in southern Thailand and in all of Thailand. According to the legend of Phra Borom That Nakhon Si Thammarat, Prince Thonthakuman and Princess Hem Chala were the ones who took Buddha relics to Hat Sai Kaeo and built a small pagoda to mark the location. Later on, King Si-Thamma Sokarat established the city of Nakhon Si Thammarat and built a new pagoda. The present pagoda has a distinctive Sri Lankan style. It is 55.78 meters high (measured by the Fine Arts Department during the renovation of the gold top in 1995). The height from the lotus base to the gold top is 6.80 meters. The top is entirely covered by pure gold. Inside the temple are many buildings of importance, especially the royal building which has beautiful architecture from the Ayutthaya period and the Sam Chom building where the Buddha image attired in royal wardrobe Phra Si Thamma Sokarat is housed. There are also the Phra Maha Phinetkrom



(the equestrian image) building, the Thap Kaset building, while the Khian and Pho Lanka buildings are used to display artifacts donated to the temple by Buddhists.

Ho Phra Narai



Ho Phra Narai is also on Ratchadamnoen Road and another Brahman place of worship opposite Ho Phra Isuan. The original structure and design of this hall are unknown. However, a gray sandstone image of the god Narai wearing a hat and holding a conch in the right hand was discovered in the hall. It is estimated that it dates from the 11th-12th Buddhist century. This image is now in the National Museum in town. The only artifact on display in the hall is a replica of the Narai image discovered at an archaeological dig in Amphoe Si Chon.



Chedi Yak

Chedi Yak is the province's second-tallest pagoda after Phra Borom That pagoda. It is located near Nakhon Si Thammarat Municipality in the abandoned Wat Chedi area. It is said that the pagoda was built by Khotkhiri, a wealthy Mon, and his employees when they took refuge in the city in 1003.



Shadow play house of Suchat Sapsin

Shadow play house of Suchat Sapsin is at 10/18 Si Thammasok Road, Soi 3. Suchat Sapsin received the 1996 Thailand Tourism Awards for the best cultural and historical site. The house has a shadow play museum, shadow play-making demonstrations and complete performances. Visitors can appreciate this fascinating art by calling tel. 346394.

City Wall is alongside Ratchadamnoen Road. The wall was renovated in the early Rattanakosin period and once more in 1990. The wall runs parallel with the city moat from Chai Nua Gate or Chai Sak Gate to the east for 100 meters.



Nakhon Si Thammarat National Museum in Tambon Nai Muang occupy the area of the old Wat Suan Luang Tawan Ok. The museum was opened in 1974 and has on display artifacts found in 4 southern provinces, which are Nakhon Si Thammarat, Phatthalung, Surat Thani, and Chumphon. Of interest are also the local handicrafts display room. The national library building opened to the public in 1976. There is a good collection of rare books and important books sent by the National Library in Bangkok for locals to study.



Wirathai Monument is made of blackened copper. The monument features a soldier ready to fight with a bayonet. The locals call this monument Cha Dam or Chao Pho Dam. It was erected to honor Thai soldiers in southern Thailand who died fighting an invading Japanese force in World War II on December 8, 1941. The monument is on Ratchadamnoen Road in Fort Vajiravudh which is the headquarters of the Fourth Region Army. The fort compound itself has conference rooms, guesthouses, a golf course, a shooting range, and a souvenir shop.



Wat Khao Khun Phanom and the Khao Khun Phanom Scientific Study Center is in Mu 3, Tambon Ban Ko. From the city, use Highway No. 4016 to Km. 21 past Phrom Lok market and take a right-hand road for 2.5 kilometers. Wat Khao Khun Phanom is a temple of historical and archaeological importance. The temple has a cave lined with a brick wall and marked with heart-shaped stones marking the limits of the temple similar to those along the city wall. The front wall has plaster designs decorated with Chinese porcelain. In the cave are about 30 bronze Buddha images and a bronze Buddha's footprint. Several smaller connecting caves branch out from the main cave like an elaborate fortress maze. Many believe this is where King Taksin the Great used to stay. Others say it was the rest stop of Princess Kesini, daughter of Chao Nara Suriyawong, the lord of Nakhon Si Thammarat during 1769-1776.

On the way up Khao Khun Phanom is the Khao Khun Phanom Scientific Study Center that provides knowledge on science, technology, the environment, and eco-tourism to the public. The Khao Khun Phanom community is a cultural community. There is a training camp activity and a grouping called the Tourism to Study Fruit Orchards by Bicycle Club. Please call tel. (075) 345154.



Wat Tham Thong Phannara is in Mu 9, Tambon Tham Phannara, about 2 kilometers from the Asia Highway (No. 41) at Km. 192-193 and about 1 kilometer from the district office. Legend has it that two nuns named Pring and Prang came by sea with many followers and belongings to give valuables to build a pagoda entombing Lord Buddha's relics. However, when they arrived at the port (Ban Pak Ra now), they found that the pagoda had already been completed, so they chose another suitable site to build which was Thong cave. They then built a reclining Buddha image in the cave. When the nuns died, their descendents placed their bones in 2 Buddha images that they built. It became tradition that on the first full-moon night of the 11th lunar month (October) people would pay homage to the reclining image and the images representing the nuns called Phra Pring and Phra Prang. This Khun Tham ceremony is attended by a great number of worshippers who bring with them desserts to make offerings and who tour the caves there which consist of both dark and bright caves.



Wat Mok Lan archaeological site is in Tambon Don Kha and is 10 kilometers from the district office. To get there, take Highway No. 401 to Ban Na Thap, turn left onto Highway No. 4022 and drive for 6 kilometers. Originally a religious place for Brahmans of the Sawai Nikai sect, the artifacts found here date from the 12th-14th Buddhist century. Items that can be seen here include traces of stone pillars, carvings around doorways, religious stones, an ancient pond, and statue bases. The Fine Arts Department declared this area an archaeological site in 1975.



Khao Kha archaeological site in Tambon Sao Phao. To get there, take Highway No. 401 from Si Phibun intersection to Km. 99, turn left onto Chinda Pracha Sawan Road for 7 kilometers. Khao Kha is a sacred religious place of the Sawai Nikai sect which worships Shiva as its highest god. Khao Kha is regarded as being like the mythical Khao Phra Sumen, a center of worship, that is surrounded by smaller, secondary historical sites. Many artifacts used in rites have been found here including phallic symbols, holy

water pipes, ruins, and an ancient pond. The site dates from the 13th-14th Buddhist century.

The Fine Arts Department completed its renovation in 1997.



Phanang.

Wat Nantharam used to be called Wat Tai and currently houses Luang Pho Phut, a red sandstone Buddha image from the Ayutthaya period. Pak Phanang people worship this sacred image. In addition, the temple houses a giant phallic symbol found at Khao Kha archaeological site and is believed to be around 1,200 years old and from the 12th-14th Buddhist century. The symbol is carved from limestone and is the most complete in southern Thailand. The temple is at Chai Nam Road on the western side of Pak

Pak Phanang coast and Talumphuk cape are the sites of a severe storm in Nakhon Si Thammarat in 1962. The coast of Pak Phanang is a long beach with the Talumphuk cape to the north jutting out into the Gulf of Thailand like a crescent moon. The part where it is connected to Nakhon Si Thammarat bay has some villagers, while the coast on the gulf has a beautiful, pine-lined beach. To get to both places, take Highway No. 4013 (Nakhon Si Thammarat-Pak Phanang) and then 16 kilometers on a road to Pak Phanang. Both sides of the road are shrimp farms and mangrove forests.



Somdet Phra Sri Nakharin 84 Park (Thung Tha Lat) is a large park with an area of over 490.23 acres. It is just behind the provincial stadium. Originally part of Ratcharudi Park in the time of King Rama V, the park has an open zoo, a bird park, a health park, and a lake which is home to

waterfowls that migrate here during January to March every year.

Khao Luang National Park

covers Amphoe Muang, Amphoe Phipun, Amphoe Phrom Khiri, Amphoe Lan Saka, Amphoe Chawang, King Amphoe Chang Klang, and King Amphoe Nop Phitam. Having a land area of 597 square kilometers, it was declared a national park on December 18, 1974.



The park has a winding mountain range, with the Khao Luang peak the highest of the peaks in southern Thailand at 1,835 meters above sea level. It is the watershed of more than 15 streams and rivers. The park's rainforest is home to a multitude of tropical flora and fauna. There is a route that takes visitors around the park to see unspoiled natural scenery, the variety of wildlife and rare animal and plant species, some of which can only be found in the park. The beauty and completeness of the park, its fascinating nature, the park's efforts to encourage the local community and tourists to be aware of the importance of nature, and its excellent tourist service system have all combined to help the park win the 1998 Thailand Tourism Award in the natural destination category. For more information and accommodation bookings, please contact Khao Luang National Park at Karom waterfall, Tambon Khao Kaeo, P.O. Box 51, Amphoe Muang, Nakhon Si Thammarat 80000.

Ban Khiri Wong is an ancient community which settled at the foot of Khao Luang in Tambon Kamlon, a path up the mountain. This peaceful village is like one big, happy family. The main occupation is growing mixed fruits, such as mangosteen, rambutan, durian, and Sato. The village was faced with catastrophe on November 21, 1988 when a flash flood swept away some 100 houses. The local monastery and villagers still maintain the damaged convocation hall and houses as monuments to those who perished. Ban Khiri Wong is considered a prototype of eco-tourism management and the place won the 1998 Thailand Tourism Award in the city and community category. The village is a good example of local people co-existing with nature. Residents have developed tourism services to be a new business for the area. The services include trekking tours, porters and homestay programs through the Eco-tourism Club, a central organization that delegates responsibilities to groups in the community to create cooperation. Tourists can appreciate the way of life here all year round, with the most attractive time during July to September when fruits are on sale. Trekking up Khao Luang must start at Ban Khiri Wong. One can get to the village by taking a mini-bus from Talat Yao. Buses depart from 07.00-16.00 hrs. The fare is 17 baht. Alternatively, one can drive on the Amphoe Muang-Lan Saka route for 26 kilometers. The sign pointing to the village is at Km. 20 on the right. Please contact the Kamlon Administration Office at the President of club Khun Prachuab tel. 09-5012706 or (075) 309210



Phrom Lok waterfall is in Tambon Phrom Lok. It can be reached via Highway No. 4016 (Nakhon Si Thammarat-Phrom Khiri) to Km. 20, then turning left onto Highway No. 4132 for 5 kilometers. This is a large waterfall with wide and lovely rock platforms. The source is in Nakhon Si Thammarat mountain range and flows down 4 levels, which are Nan Bo Nam Won, Nan Wang Mai Pak, Nan Wang Hua Bua, and Nan Wang Ai Le. The water flows past many kinds flora before going to Khlong Tha Phae and ending in the Gulf of Thailand in Tambon Pak Phun.

Ai Khiao waterfall (or Nai Khiao waterfall) is in Tambon Thon Hong. It is 30 kilometers from the city on Highway No. 4016 on the same route as Phrom Lok waterfall. However, it is at Km. 26 and then going on a left-hand road for 3 kilometers more. The source is also from Khao Luang. This waterfall has 9 levels, which are Nan Chong Sai, Nan Bang Bai, Nan Mai Phai, Nan Sua Phan, Nan Buppha Sawan, Nan Hin Kong, Nan Hua Chang, Nan Sai Kwat Lan, and Nan Fa Faet. The surrounding area is still a dense jungle. Both sides of the falls are covered with betel gardens. The locals call the betel Phlu Pak Sai because of its hot flavor and sweet scent. The view of Khao Luang is best viewed from here.



Krung Ching waterfall is a beautiful and important waterfall of Khao Luang National Park. Located in Tambon Krung Ching, the waterfall derived its name from Ton Ching which is a kind of palm prevalent in the area. The waterfall has many levels, each with a different name, such as Nan Mut Phae, Nan Fon Saen Ha, Nan Plew, Nan Chon, Nan Chone, Nan Ton To, and Nan Wang Rua Bin. The most breathtaking level is Nan Fon Saen Ha where water drops off a sheer cliff 100 meters high, splashing down creating a mist covering the area like rain unlike other falls. This waterfall level is depicted on the back of Thailand's 1,000 baht currency note. The waterfall is under the responsibility of the Khao Luang National Park Protection Unit. The waterfall can be reached by a road 3.8 kilometers long to Nan Fon Saen Ha. The area has a training center, accommodation and a campground. tel. (075) 309644-5

To get to the falls, take the Nakhon Si Thammarat-Phrom Khiri road (4016). Upon reaching Na Reng intersection, turn left to King Amphoe Nop Phitam and turn right (4186). The total distance is 70 kilometers.



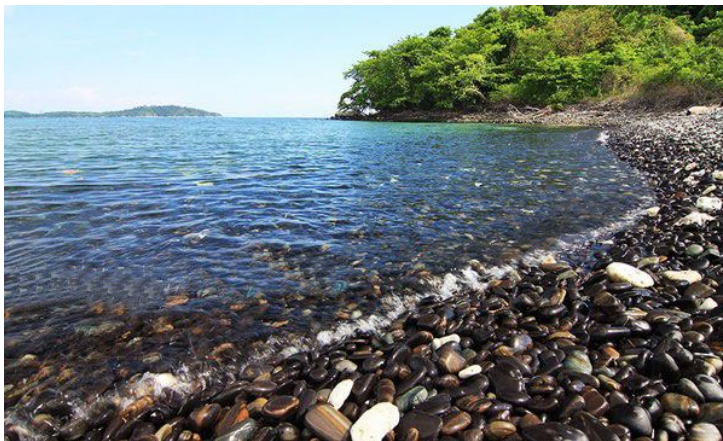
Rafting on Khlong Klai can be done on rubber boats provided by Krung Ching Administration Office in Mu 3, Tambon Krung Ching, near Krung Ching waterfall. There are 2 ways of the rafting route, which are Pak Khlong Phitam-Lan Hin Dan which is 2.5 kilometers and takes 1 hour and Pak Khlong Phitam-Ban Thung Nai which is 6 kilometers and takes 3 hours. The fee is 250-350 baht/person. Please contact tel. 01-9790873.



Hong cave is a medium-sized cave with a stream running through its center before going subterranean to another stream outside. Stalactites and stalagmites of strange shapes abound in the cave. The most distinctive characteristic of the cave is a waterfall that drops down 3 levels. Visitors in the cave must wade through water before emerging from the exit 300 meters away. The cave is under the responsibility of the Khao Nanthi National Park Protection Unit (Khlong Lamphaen). The cave is situated just before Krung Ching waterfall.

Khao Nan National Park is 30 kilometers from Amphoe Tha Sala. The park covers areas in Amphoe Tha Sala, Amphoe Sichon and King Amphoe Nop Phitam. In addition, the park has areas in Pa Khao Nan National Forest Reserve and Pa Krung Ching National Forest Reserve. The total area of the park is 436 square kilometers. The main topography is a high mountain range extending from Khao Luang National Park. The park itself is a watershed of many waterways. Travel from the city can be by Highway No. 401 across Khlong Klai past Ban Sa Kaeo in Amphoe Tha Sala. Upon reaching Km. 110, turn left into Ban Pak Chao and drive 15 kilometers to the park office.

The park's main attraction is Sunantha waterfall which is a small but lovely waterfall. Water drops down a steep cliff to the pool below before flowing into Khlong Klai, the main waterway of Tha Sala. Rafting can be done in the canal when the water level is high.



Hin Ngam beach has a unique characteristic in that it is littered with round rocks of various striking colors. Hence, its name. There are no services here.

Kho Khao beach (Piti beach) is a popular beach that connects to Hin Ngam beach. There are accommodation and restaurant facilities for tourists.

How to get there Take Highway No. 401 from Amphoe Muang for 70 kilometers to Amphoe Sichon. Turn right to Ban Pak Nam for 3 kilometers to Sichon beach (Hua Hin Sichon) and from there it is 1.5 kilometers to Hin Ngam and Kho Khao (Piti) beaches. Piti beach is 2 kilometers from Hin Ngam beach.



Si Khit waterfall is in Mu 2, Tambon Si Khit. It is 15 kilometers west of Sichon beach on Highway No. 4105. This small waterfall originates in the mountains to the west and flows down several levels amidst pristine natural surroundings. It is on the way to becoming a national park.



Hat Khanom Mu Ko Thale Tai National Park has its headquarters on the Khanom-Rong Faifa Road. It is 100 meters from the road to the left. The park incorporates islands, mountains and coastal areas of Amphoe Khanom and some parts of Surat Thani. This park has many islands, such as Ko Noi, Ko Wang Nai, Ko Wang Nok, Ko Taen, Ko Rap, Ko Tha Rai, and Ko Phi. In addition, there are some bays like Ao Khanom, Ao Thong Tha Kham, Ao Thong Lang, Ao Thong Yi, and Ao Thong Yang. Mountains dot the park, like Khao Phlai Dam, Khao Phi Ngai, Khao Kho, Khao Phlao, and Khao Dat Fa.

Ao Khanom is the largest bay in Khanom. It is 1.5 kilometers from the district office and can be reached by taking Highway No. 4014 which separates from Highway No. 401, drive for 17 kilometers, then 1 kilometer past Khanom Public Health Area Market, then turn right and drive along Khanom beach. Khanom beach is a long beach that connects to other beaches, as follows:

Hat Nai Phlao is Khanom's largest beach and the most popular tourist attraction. The beach curves along a mountain range. The overall scenery is one that features perfect nature, including a clean, white beach conducive to a day in the sun. Accommodation and restaurant facilities are available.



To get there, take a laterite road from Hat Nai Phlao near Khanap Nam Resort. The distance to there is 2.5 kilometers.



Khao Phlai Dam is a seaside mountain which borders Khanom and Sichon. The Khao Phlai Dam Wildlife Development and Conservation Office is here in Tambon Thung Sai. Hat Thong Yang in the area is a fine beach suitable for swimming. A number of herbivores inhabit the mountain, such as deer, mouse deer and a variety of birds.

To get to the mountain, travel from Sichon to the north to Tambon Thung Sai for 12 kilometers.



Ban Rang Nok is famous for the nests made by swallows in the town. Several houses and buildings have been closed because of the immense number of swallows inhabiting them. These birds make the houses their homes just like living in caves and mountains. However, the nests are not easily accessible as they are in private properties.

Traditions and Festivals

Hae Pha Khun That Festival is celebrated at Phra Borom That Chedi. The pagoda is considered to be the representative of Lord Buddha and is believed by locals to possess unsurpassed might of righteousness as it contains holy relics. Every year Buddhists pay homage to the pagoda by organizing a procession bearing a religious cloth to wrap around the pagoda to bring good fortune and success. This festival is held twice a year during Makha Bucha Day (the 15th full-moon night of February) and Wisakha Bucha Day (the 15th full-moon night of May).

Festival of the Tenth Lunar Month is a grand event of the province and of southern Thailand. This festival is held from the 1st waning-moon night to the 15th waning-moon night every September. It is held to pay respect to deceased ancestors. According to Buddhism beliefs, the dead had many sins and was sent to hell to become a demon. The demons are allowed to



come up to meet their relatives for 15 days in September, but must return to hell before sunrise of the 15th day. The living try to appease the spirits by taking food to temples to make merit. Beginning on the 13th day, people will go shopping for food to be given. The 14th day is spent preparing and

decorating the food tray, and the 15th day is the actual merit-making day. The tray presented nowadays has elaborate designs but still retains traditional components. Contests to find the most beautiful tray are held. A magnificent procession proceeds along Ratchadamnoen Road on the 14th day.



Chak Phra or Lak Phra Festival is influenced by Indian culture, which expanded into the province a long time ago. The festival signifies the joy that people had when Lord Buddha returned from a star and the Lord was invited to sit on a throne and carried to a palace. In practice, locals would bear a Buddha image holding a bowl in a procession around the city. This is a great way for escape from daily routine and it is a fun competition to find who is the most

religious. Held in October, the festival is preceded by activities 7 days before, such as beating drums, playing castanets and decorating the ceremonial throne for the image. The actual ceremony is usually held only on the last day of the Buddhist lent. People would take the image from the temple in the morning and proceed to Benchama Rachuthit School in Amphoe Muang. This is also done in front of Ron Phibun district office. In addition, there is a water-borne procession on Pak Phanang River in Pak Phanang, which coincides with an annual boat race for a trophy from the Crown Princess.



Cultural Etiquette

Thai culture can be a little strange to outsiders at times, and many Thai customs and traditions take some getting used to.

The People

Thais are tolerant of individualism, but find comfort and security in being part of a group. Mai Pen Rai (never mind) is the Thai expression which characterizes the general focus of life - "it is to enjoy." Thais are productive and hardworking while at the same time happy with what they are and what they have materially. They are smiling, pleasant, humble and patient people who laugh easily, speak softly, are slow to anger, and never try to cause anyone to lose face. Thais are very proud of their cultural heritage and enjoy talking about it with visitors.



Religion

Going hand-in-hand with their complex spirit world is the deep influence of Buddhism on life in Thailand. With temples everywhere, and monks called in to bless everything from a new car to a company launch, few Thais would risk ignoring their religious beliefs, no matter how cosmopolitan and hip they are. Visitors may treat aspects of Buddhism as tourist attractions but they are expected to show respect, not to climb on religious relics nor show disrespect to Buddhist images. Patience in dealing with Thai religious habits is expected.

Superstition

This is a big deal in Thailand and all Thais, pious or otherwise, will have some sort of fear, or respect and belief in spirits. This governs their lives quite significantly with frequent merit-making exercises, visits to temples, consultation with seers and observation of traditional superstitions. The many spirit houses located on properties everywhere are testament to the importance of appeasing spirits, real or imaginary, and it can sometimes cause some inconvenience. Befriending a Thai is a great way to learn more about these spiritual intricacies.

The Monarchy

The Thai people pay their monarchy the upmost respect and the current King Rama IX HM

Bhumibol Adulyadej is much beloved for his 60+ years of impressive servitude to his subjects. He is indeed worthy of all the adulation

that the nation heaps on him and any suggestion otherwise won't go down very well. Public slander is likely to land you in jail. The royals are treated with upmost respect and an enormous amount of space and energy is devoted to this. Visitors should avoid any behaviour that is disrespectful including defacing images (such as those on banknotes).



Eating

Eating is an important communal activity which is central to the lives of all Thais and is typically a time to relax and relish the company of friends or colleagues. Eating alone is considered unsociable, with Thais typically sharing several dishes together around a table or floor mat, with everyone picking slowly at the various dishes. Food is something to be shared and offered to strangers, so don't be surprised if you're invited to gin kaew ('eat rice') or are frequently greeted with the question gin kaewruu yang ('have you eaten?'). The correct thing to do is join in, even for a few minutes. The wealthiest at the table usually picks up the tab (an honour), so don't feel cheated if your companion invites a handful of friends and presents you with the bill - you'll be much respected.

Meeting and Greeting

Thailand is a land of friendliness and hospitality. As such, there is a good chance that you will be invited to a meal. It is also a land of traditions and customs that differ greatly from those of

the Western world. As a foreigner, you might not be expected to effortlessly navigate the complex world of Thai etiquette. However, having a basic understanding of what is acceptable, what is frowned upon, and what is outright taboo can make a big difference in your social and professional life.

When being introduced or greeting someone, men say Sawatdee-krap and women say Sawatdee-kah.

Thais greet each other with a "wai." Foreigners are not expected to initiate the wai gesture, but it is



an insult not to return the wai. If a wai is not offered to you, shake hands with men and smile and nod to women. A Thai businessperson may shake hands with a foreigner. Offer a wai only to a person of equal or greater status. Subordinates should offer a wai first.

Wai (why) - a person places the palm of his or her hands together, with their fingers extended at chest level close to their body and bows slightly. The higher the hands are placed, the more respect is shown. Subordinates might raise their fingers as high as their nose. However, the tips of their fingers should never be above eye level.

A wai can mean "Hello," "Thank you," "I'm sorry," or "Goodbye." A wai is not used to greet children, servants, street vendors or laborers. Never return a wai to a child, waiter, clerk, etc. Simply nod and smile in response.

Monks do not return a wai.

Thais say "Where are you going" rather than "Hello." A polite response is "Just down the street."

Introductions are common only in a formal situation. Introduce yourself by your first name. Feel free to introduce yourself or ask for someone's name. When introducing your business partner to an important Thai, mention your partner's name first.

The inferior or lower-status person is always addressed first in an introduction. Thus, a child is introduced before its parents, a secretary is introduced before her boss.

Names and Titles

Thais address one another by first names and titles and reserve last names for very formal occasions and written communications. Last names have been used in Thailand for only the past fifty years and are difficult even for Thais to pronounce. Two people with the same last name are almost certainly related.

Foreigners are often addressed by their given names because it is easier for Thais; it does not imply familiarity. Thais will probably call you Mr. Joe or Mrs. Mary.

Titles, rank and honor are very important. Introductions require only the given name and title. Mr., Mrs., or Miss + family name are appropriate for visitors to use in formal situations.

Thai given names are preceded by Khun (Mr. Mrs. or Miss), unless they carry a higher degree, such as doctor. Khun is used for men and women, married or single. If you don't know a person's name, address them as Khun. Example: Anuwat (Given) + Wattapongsiri (Family) is Khun Anuwat.

Correspondence: Use Dear + Khun + given name. Example: Dear Khun Mary.

Dining and Entertainment

To attract a waiter, wave quietly with your palm down or say "Nong" (brother or sister). Never snap your fingers or raise your voice to attract a waiter.

Thai food is eaten with a fork and a tablespoon rather than with chopsticks. The spoon is held in the right hand and the bottom of the fork pushes the food into the spoon.

All Western hotels serve Western and continental cuisine for all meals.

Never drink tap water unless it is boiled. Avoid eating salads that haven't been washed in purified water. Always peel fruit before eating.

Many Thai dishes are hot and spicy with herbs, lemon grass, and coriander, but most are not especially aggressive. Food is always sweet, sour, hot, salty or spicy never bland. Each region has its own specialties.

Food may be transferred to your rice bowl, where it can be mixed with rice. Rice is eaten with almost every meal.

Leave a small amount of food on your plate when you have finished eating, to show you are full. Place your spoon and fork on your plate at the 5:25 position to indicate you are finished eating.

The host pays the bill. Never offer to split a bill in a restaurant.



Gift Giving Etiquette

Gift giving in Thailand is often informal. Except at weddings or other important events, it is not necessarily expected. However, preparing a simple, neatly-wrapped gift is certainly a worthwhile gesture of friendship and appreciation. If you are going to give a gift to a Thai friend or host, there are a few important things to know:

Don't wrap a gift in black, blue, or green. These are the colors used at funerals, and are associated with mourning. Red is an auspicious color for gifts among Chinese Thais.

It is not common for Thais to open a gift in front of the giver.

Fruit, flowers, candy or chocolates are always safe choices. You may also give books, liquors, or stationary. Use your best judgment about what your host would find appropriate or useful.

If you are invited to someone's home, bringing a gift is not mandatory. However, a small token of gratitude is always appreciated.



Public Displays of Affection

Despite its infamous reputation for being a hub for international sex tourism, Thailand's still in many ways a very conservative country, and Thai attitudes towards physical contact between men and women reflect this. When in public, kissing between men and women is considered

completely inappropriate, even in cosmopolitan cities like Bangkok. Hand-holding and standing with arms around each other's waists is typically fine in larger cities, but may still be frowned upon in more conservative areas of the country (it's usually better to be safe than sorry).

Personal Space

While westerners are typically unruffled by kissing in public, handshakes, and contact between genders, they are usually very possessive of their personal space. Depending on their country of origin, a westerner may prefer to maintain a distance of 2-4 feet between himself and his peers, even among friends. Beyond greetings, physical contact between friends and peers may make many westerners uncomfortable or may signal a romantic interest. Thais, by contrast, require very little personal space, especially among friends, though they will not greet each other with hugs.

Corporate Culture

Thailand has a pro-business attitude. Business decisions are slow. Decisions pass through many levels before being decided upon. Planning is short-term. Top management is often family. Who you know is important. Powerful connections are respected.

First meetings generally produce good humor, many smiles, polite conversation and few results. The second meeting should include a meal invitation. Meetings begin with small talk. Discussing business before becoming acquainted is impolite. Degrees, especially from prestigious universities, bring status. Thais may list these on their business card. Thais respect foreigners with powerful connections.

Negotiations may be lengthy. Process takes precedence over content. Slow information flow may delay discussions and decisions.

Thais prefer to work later in the evening rather than early in the morning. Business is kept separate from work. Family comes first before business.

Frankness is not appreciated. Be subtle in responding with a negative reply.

Body Language

Never touch or pass anything over anyone's head. The head is considered sacred in Thailand and must be respected.

Never point your feet at anyone or use your feet to move anything or touch anyone. Feet are regarded as unclean and symbolically (as well as physically) the lowest part of the body.

Do not put your hands in your pockets while talking to someone. Never put your arm over the back of the chair in which someone is sitting.

A smile is often used for many different emotions. It may be an apology, a thank-you, a greeting, or to show embarrassment. Be aware: A Thai's smiling assurance does not mean you will in fact get what you want, when you want it. It simply reflects the Thai appreciation of harmony and their "never mind" attitude.

Don't wave your hands about as you talk, giving Thais the impression that you are angry. Never pass anything with your left hand. Never point with your hand and never, never with one finger.

Do not cross your legs in the presence of the elderly or monks.

To beckon someone, extend your arm with the palm of your hand down and flutter your fingers up and down.

Complaining

This one is what foreigners are famous for. Thais seldom openly complain (certainly about poor standards) as it means confrontation and gives the potential for loss of face. Their solution is to quietly put up with things and find alternatives. Unfortunately, this has engendered a culture of poor standards and lack of improvement, and visitors are often intolerant and respond by simply raising their voice, kicking up a fuss and getting worked up. It will have little effect really, as Thais simply don't know how to respond to criticism other than to get embarrassed, smile and try to avoid the issue.