

# Wat Tham Sua

## By Vanseven Co.,Ltd.



Wat Tham Sua is one of famous temples in Kanchanaburi. Those who are coming to visit this temple will see a beautiful Buddha image from far away because, in this temple, there is the largest Buddha Image in Kanchanaburi located. Apart from respecting to the Buddha Image, visitors also come here in order to make a respect to holy relics in Ketkaew Prasat Chedi. This temple is situated in Tha Muang District, where visitors can stop over before arriving in the city of Kanchanaburi. Note, Wat Tham Sua (Tiger Cave Temple) is not Tiger Temple (Wat Pa Luang Ta Bua).

When arriving in Wat Tham Sua, visitors will automatically notice that there is a car park and stalls for food and souvenirs in front of the temple. After getting inside of the temple area, visitors who need to go to respect the Buddha image need to make a choose between climbing up via 157 steep steps staircase or take a round trip tram ticket to the hill top, very cheap for the ticket though.

At the hill top, visitors will see the largest Buddha Image situated in out-door area. This largest Buddha Image, named Chin Prathanporn, was built in 1973. This Buddha image is about 18 meters high and 10 meters wide. Visitors usually make respect here before move up to respect holy relics at Ketkaew Prasat and see panoramic view there. The view is really outstanding with Mae Klong River and green color of gigantic rice fields. Visitors are able to see Chinese Pagoda from Wat Tham Khao Noi Located next to this temple.

Wat Tham Sua is located at the hill top of Tumbon Tha Muang (Tha Muang Suburb), 5 kilometers from Mae Klong Dam. Its location is not too far from Kanchcnaburi City, only about 12 kilometers, so visitors can stop over here for either come to Kanchanaburi or leave to Bangkok. Visitors from the city can rent a motorcycle or hop a Songthaew (Baht Bus) to visit here.

# KANCHANABURI WAR CEMETERY (DON RAK)

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## ATTRACTION DETAILS

Situated only 2 kilometers south of town on the bank of the Kwai Noi River, this is where to pay respect to the 1,740 prisoners of the World War II who didn't have a chance to return home and rest in peace here. The site was formerly the prisoners of war camp.

Opening hours: 9.00 am - 5.00 pm

The Bridge, together with the Death Railway, is now regarded as the significant symbol of peace, portraying that war is the great illusion that benefits no one. State Railway of Thailand now offers train travel trips along the Death Railway, running from Bangkok to Noktok Station, on weekends and public holidays. You can also take a walk to cross the bridge on foot, too.

# JEATH War Museum

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## ATTRACTION DETAILS

The name JEATH is derived from countries engaged in the WWII death railway construction from 1942 to 1945: Japan, England, America, Australia, Thailand and Holland. And as the name suggests, this small museum displays photographs and illustrations narrating the living condition of prisoners of war (POWs) during that cruel time, some of which were donated by former POWs who survived. The museum building itself was also turned from the detention hut, used during that period.

# BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER KWAI

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## ATTRACTION DETAILS

Perhaps the best known attraction of Kanchanaburi, featured in world's famous book and film, The Bridge on the River Kwai is part of the infamous Death Railway, spanning over Kwai Yai River, built by the prisoners of the World War II under the supervision of Japanese Imperialism Army. The 415-kilometer railway was built to connect Thailand and Myanmar to secure supplies to the Japanese army during their Greater East-Asian War. It is called the Death Railway as it involved the death of too many people during the construction period, between September 16, 1942 and on 25 December 1943 when it completed. It is estimated that more than 16,000 war prisoners (POWs) from England, Australia, Holland and America, together with some 90,000 labors from Thailand, Myanmar, Malaysia and Indonesia, died during the construction through experience a series bombing raids and cruelty of the Imperial Japanese Army.

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# ERAWAN NATIONAL PARK

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## ATTRACTION DETAILS

Situated some 65 kilometers from Kanchanaburi along Route 3199, this 550-square-kilometer national park is best known for its seven-level Erawan Waterfall, which is one of Thailand's most famous, and most beautiful, waterfalls. Among all levels, the second level of the fall features vast, picturesque pond ideal for swimming while trekking trails to the upper levels are also favored by adventurous lovers. Bungalows and camping facilities are available, too.