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Phuket



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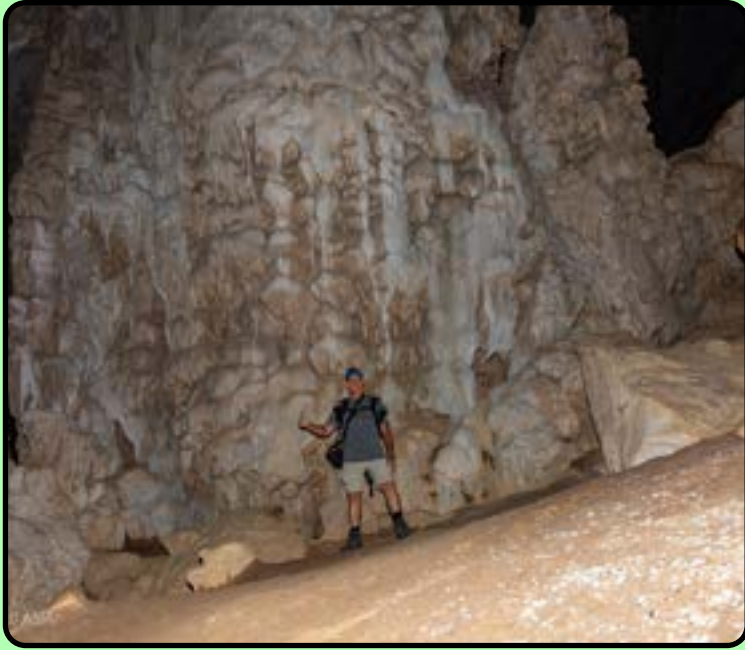
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FOREWORD



Thanks for downloading this FREE interactive travel guide. You've made an excellent choice if you plan on **GETTING OFF THE BEATEN TRACK** in THAILAND. Before you delve into the content of this travel guide, please take a few minutes to read this foreword. It outlines how to make the best use of the information contained within.

First-hand experience: This travel guide has been put together using first-hand experience gained from traveling to, and exploring, all the locations presented within. The information and photos featured in my travel guides, have been collated over years of putting boots on the ground. There is no second-hand information, or information which is plagiarized from other travel sources, within this guide. Every cave, waterfall, river, viewpoint, jungle trail, temple site, guesthouse and restaurant presented, or promoted, I have been to and seen and/or experienced myself.

Getting off the beaten track: The primary focus of my travel guides is **ADVENTURE TRAVEL** (and activities) to locations which are non-mainstream tourist destinations. As an example, there is no information for the mainstream tourist locations of Thailand (except as transit hub's before heading off to a more remote location) listed in this travel guide. As such, the information in this guide is directed towards travelers (not tourists) who are keen for a bit of adventure - caving, climbing, jungle

trekking, kayaking - in an off the beaten track location, of South East Asia. If these types of activities aren't to your liking, then this travel guide won't be much use to you. There's no information in here about the party towns in South East Asia.

Budget travel: Knowing the importance of making the most of your hard-earned currency, my travel links ([12GO ASIA](#)) and accommodation links ([AGODA](#)) are predominantly budget oriented. They provide a range of options for getting to a central hub, or base, from which you can make your daily explorations.

Independent sightseeing: Instead of going on group tours, I strongly promote the idea of renting your own vehicle (car or motorbike) and venturing out yourself. To help you get to the exact location, there's always a [GOOGLE MAPS](#) link to show the route from a hub (hotel or guesthouse) to the sightseeing attraction. If there's a local tour operator offering excellent adventure type tours, or activities, I'll provide links to their website. A good example of a great adventure tour operator is [GREEN DISCOVERY LAOS](#), who offer excellent caving, kayaking and trekking tours throughout Laos.

The Table of Contents: This is page four of the travel guide and has a sequential list of sections, which you can go to directly by clicking on the **GREEN** numbered tab.

YouTube Links: These take you directly to my YouTube Vlog ([Megaworld Asia](#)) where you can see short, high quality travel videos of the numerous attractions listed in my travel guides. If you enjoy the videos, please hit the like button and don't forget to subscribe to see my upcoming adventures.

Your next adventure is just one click away

Safe travels,

MEGA

Phuket Island

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**It's Time To Get
Off The Beaten Track**

How To Use This Interactive Travel Guide

The Table Of Contents: To effortlessly move from the TOC to the page you want to view, simply click on the **page number**: 

YouTube Links: These will take you to a short highlights video, of the sightseeing attraction, in the section you're looking at:



Other Links: These take you to ancillary services such as recommended restaurants, or car and motorbike rental agencies, in the location you're traveling to:

ANCILLARY SERVICES

Travel Links: This takes you to **12GO ASIA**, an excellent travel group which provides a range of options for getting around the region:



The Table Of Contents: To move back to the TOC, click on the **yellow arrows**, at the bottom of each Page: 

Google Maps Links: These provide a route from a designated location (e.g., a hotel) to a particular sightseeing attraction:



Information Links: These links take you to information sites, such as Wikipedia or Wiki-voyage, to provide more in-depth info on a particular subject or location:



Accommodation Links: This takes you to the Agoda website to check accommodation availability and make bookings:



It's Time To Get Off The Beaten Track



PHUKET - GENERAL INFORMATION

PHUKET: The resort island of Phuket is generally not a place one might consider being "off the beaten track." With its golden beaches, turquoise seas, and amazing selection of seafood restaurants, it's a renowned beach resort destination which sees hundreds of thousands of visitors every year. Being such a popular spot it's hard to envisage there might anywhere you can get away from the teeming crowds spread across the island. But for the more adventurous traveler, seeking out the quieter, less frequented spots, all is not lost. With a bit of exploring there are some hidden gems to be found where the hordes of tourists seem a world away, and you can feel as though you really are off the beaten track.

Getting there: Being one of the most popular beach locations in Thailand there are a myriad of transportation options from Bangkok. The quickest and least stressful is on one of the dozens of flights which depart from the international and domestic airports in the capital. For those on a budget, there's a combination of trains and buses departing from Bangkok at regular daily intervals.

Click the link below to choose your preferred transportation option from Bangkok to Phuket:



Accommodation in Phuket: There are literally thousands of accommodation choices in Phuket to suit the individuals taste and budget range. A centrally located option, which is in a quieter area of Patong is the BARAMEE RESORTELL. This 3 star hotel is located at the northern end of Patong Beach with a good selection of restaurants, convenience stores, massage outlets, travel and motorbike rental agencies nearby. Click the link below for booking inquiries:



GETTING OFF THE BEATEN TRACK IN PHUKET

GETTING OFF THE BEATEN TRACK:

Getting to these "off the beaten track locations" is going to involve a **do-it-yourself (DIY) approach** to sightseeing. Most tour companies won't know where these non-mainstream locations are and they certainly won't be interested in taking you to places outside their arranged tour options.

Rent a motorbike: Getting off the beaten track in Phuket is going to involve hiring your own transportation (motorbike) for the day then driving, and hiking, over some dirt tracks. Obviously there's a bit of effort involved and, more than likely, a fair amount of perspiration. But the reward when you get there is often the best uncrowded viewpoints, and beaches, on the island. A recommended motorbike rental outlet, near the Baramée Resort, is the **CHEAP AS CHIPS SHOP**:

CHEAP AS CHIPS MOTORBIKES

Note: If you rent a motorbike in Phuket you should have a motorbike license from your home country. If not there's a high



likelihood you'll get a fine if stopped at one of the many police checkpoints which are often positioned along the coastal beaches.

Police Checkpoints: These are normally positioned in locations where you don't see them until you're just a few meters away. For example, around a bend in the road. If you don't have a motorbike license you'll be issued an on the spot fine and may have to fork out 400 THB and perhaps more, if you're not wearing a motorbike helmet. **Always wear a helmet and keep your license on you.**



FREEDOM BEACH

Freedom Beach: Aficionados of Freedom Beach swear it's the most pristine stretch of coast on the island. The clean white sand, turquoise waters, and low numbers visiting make it the archetypal tropical paradise. Ironically it's only a stone's throw from arguably the most crowded and chaotic tourist area on Phuket; Patong beach.

Uncrowded: In this regard its surprising Freedom Beach doesn't attract greater numbers to its paradisaical setting. One can only surmise the major deterrent for many potential visitors is the physical exertion required for the hike out, at the end of the day. The road in can also be hard work for those not used to motoring across rough, dirt tracks.

Getting there: The access track branches off the main road from Patong to Karon. It's a potholed dirt road which heads into the jungle and winds its way around the first large hill south of Patong. The 1.5 km track to the parking area is actually marked on Google Maps. The first few hundred meters pass through a ramshackle village before



snaking around the left side of a hill and eventually ending at the top of the hiking track down Freedom Beach.

Note: There are two trails down to Freedom Beach. The northern trail is controlled by local landowners and, as such, they charge an entry fee of 200 THB to go down to the beach. **The access trail, in the link below, has free entry:**



NORTH KARON BEACH

North Karon Beach: Karon Beach is not really "off the beaten track" but as far as Phuket's mainstream beaches go, the northern end sees significantly less visitors than most others. Click the link below for directions:



Getting There: Follow the coastal road south, from Patong. Approximately 200 meters before the Karon roundabout there's a T-Junction. A left turn takes you to the roundabout, a right turn takes you through an entrance to the beach area. Take that and work your way past the artificial lake and restaurants on the right. The cement road eventually gives way to a sand track, which continues for another 200 meters. The line of restaurants on the right finishes towards the end of the sand track. For beachgoers an ideal time to visit the northern end of Karon Beach is either first thing in the morning, before the crowds begin to gather, or late in the afternoon to catch the brilliant sunsets.



Lek Seafood Restaurant: The very last restaurant is owned and operated by a Phuket local called "Tony" and the Thai food and seafood served there is excellent (big portions for a reasonable price). The restaurant is an outdoor setting with an unobscured view across the beach and ocean beyond. Lek Seafood Restaurant is a great place to have a cold beer or two while the sun sinks spectacularly over the Andaman Sea.



TRI TRANG BEACH

Tri Trang Beach: Tri Trang Beach or, more precisely, the cliff line above the beach's western end is a great spot for a late afternoon drink while looking out over Patong Bay. Unfortunately it's not a great position for a sunset view as the cliff line faces east. However for a quiet, uncrowded spot for a drink at the end of the day it's certainly one of the best in the area. **Click the link below for directions:**



Sunset drinks: If you arrive there at around 4 PM you can park up and do the walk along Tri Trang Beach, have a swim and then head back up the hill for a well-earned thirst quencher. As the sun sinks behind you the skies darken and the twinkling, bright lights of Patong Beach make for a nice setting as you look out across the Bay. The bars also double as restaurants and serve a nice selection of Thai cuisine. At the right time of year - the high season (December - March) - the calm seas in the bay often have passenger liners anchored directly in line with Tri Trang Beach.



NOTE: Although Tri Trang Beach is a nice uncrowded location for a meal and a drink in the early evening, it's a bit of a hassle to get there as access involves a drive through the congested streets of Patong. To get there you'll need to go along Patong Beach 2nd Road (Song Roi Pee Road) then turn right at the southern end and take the road to the beach. When you get to the roundabout, turn left and follow the road around the coastal route until you arrive at Tri Trang beach.



NUI BEACH

Nui Beach: As far as Phuket Beaches go Nui Bay (and beach) is quite possibly the best kept secret on the island. It's located on the south western tip of Phuket Island in an area known as Cape Krating. With its steep hillsides and rough dirt tracks the bay is difficult to access. It's predominantly because of the difficulty in getting there the beach remains relatively uncrowded, even in the height of peak season. **Click the link below for directions from Patong:**



Getting there: The locals who operate the beachside restaurants have put in a lot of effort to get sightseers to this pristine beach. They offer transportation all the way to the beach, from the turn off from the main road. Even so, it's still a bit of an undertaking getting to the beach taxi departure point. Because of the distance from the main accommodation areas on the island, the only cost effective way of getting there is on a rented motorbike. The price of a local taxi from Patong would be prohibitive.



Access Track: The access track into Cape Krating is approximately 200 meters south of a well know landmark on the western coast; **Karon Viewpoint**. Approximately 300 meters in from the turn-off is the beach taxi service down to Nui Beach. You can park your motorbike there, in safety, and take the 4 x 4 taxi. The road from that point is rough with bumps and pot-holes. If you're confident with your riding skills, then continue along this access road to the parking area at the top of the steep 1 km track down to Nui Beach.



BLACK ROCK VIEWPOINT

Black Rock Viewpoint: Black Rock Viewpoint is without doubt, the best high vantage view point on Phuket Island. What is rather ironic is that it looks out over the islands most famous sunset viewing location, Cape Prom Thep. As hundreds gather almost daily to watch the sun sinking on the western horizon they're blissfully unaware of a much better viewing location, with very few sightseers, on a hill high above them. This is because Cape Prom Thep is a mainstream tourist destination which is set up to cater for hordes of visitors each day and the tour companies have no knowledge of alternative locations.

Getting There: This is actually not too difficult if you have no problems with a ride over 2 km of dirt road and a 300 meter hike through the jungle. The location is approximately 500 meters further on from the trail down to Nui Beach. From the Nui Beach parking area you'll see a dirt road branching off to the left and up the hill. Take that and follow it until you come to the 2nd fork in the road. Go right at this point and continue



on for another 400 meters. You will eventually come to a large rock with the Thai words "PA HIN DUM" painted on it, and an arrow pointing directly across the road to where the hiking trail starts. Park your bike/vehicle here and take the trail to the viewpoint. The view when you get there is quite spectacular. **Click the link below for directions from Patong:**



Black Rock Viewpoint

THE DRAGON CAPE TRAIL

Dragon Cape: This hike is probably one of the little known gems in Phuket and is located on Laem (Cape) Krating; one of the least developed and least populated pieces of real estate on Phuket Island. It's most well-known attractions are Nui Beach and Black Rock Viewpoint (Pa Hin Dum). Beyond Black Rock Viewpoint is a little known hiking trail which goes around the Dragon Cape and eventually to Nui Beach. The total distance is probably 3 km or so and on the way there's a couple of excellent viewpoints at the end of short branching Trails. **Click the link below for directions from Patong to the Nui Beach Parking Area:**



Doing the hike: To do this hike it's recommended you leave your motorbikes at the Nui Beach parking area and hike the short distance uphill to Black Rock Viewpoint. This location is marked by a large rock with the words PA HIN DUM written on it. The trail up to Black Rock Viewpoint is directly opposite.



Approximately 200 meters beyond this location is another viewpoint (down a short trail on the right) which provides an excellent vista along the western coastline. A few meters beyond this branching trail is the start of the track to the DRAGON CAPE. **Click the link below for directions from Nui beach Park area, to the start of the Dragon Cape Trail:**



The Dragon Cape Trail

THE DRAGON CAPE TRAIL

Dragon Rock: From the start point the trail heads downhill for approximately 500 meters and eventually comes to a T-Junction, where there's a large rock with DRAGON CAPE written on it. The trail to the right leads to Nui Bay. The trail to the left goes to Cape Krating.

Nui Bay: The trail down to Nui Bay is a picturesque hike which takes you through a plantation of banana trees. Approximately 300 meters from the Dragon Rock Junction the trail turns left and provides a magnificent view out over **Nui Bay**. At the bottom of the trail there's a couple of houses and an unusual sight; a large caged area with some red deer penned inside. At the end of the trail there's a cement stairway leading down to the edge of the bay. **Note:** at this location there's no beach, just a rocky shoreline.

Getting to Nui Beach: To get to Nui Beach you need to walk back up the track (approximately 50 meters) from the building at the edge of the bay. Look for a jungle track (on the left) which skirts around the edge of Nui Bay. From here it's approximately 300 meters to Nui Beach.



Cape Krating: To get to Cape Krating, go left at the Dragon Rock Junction and follow the trail through more banana plantations until you emerge onto an open, grass covered slope. Approximately 50 meters further down the hill is a grouping of large rocks. From this point you get an uninterrupted view of the sloping coastline and ocean beyond.

Note: It's possible to hike around to Cape Krating, **from Ao Sane Beach**. This is located on the southern side of the cape and can be accessed via **Nai Harn Bay**.



THE DRAGON CAPE TRAIL - SUNSET HIKE

Doing the Sunset Hike: This is a great way to do the Dragon Cape hike (in cooler temperatures) and see a memorable sunset over Nui Bay. It's a good idea to leave your accommodation location in good time and make your way to a great little café which is near the turn-off to Cape Krating and the Dragon Cape. Have a coffee and chill out while the sun dips towards the horizon. **Click the link below for directions to CAFE HILL COFFEE & BISTRO:**



Nui Beach: At 4.30 PM make your way to the Nui Beach parking area, park your motorbikes and begin the 500 meter hike to the start of the dragon cape trail. **Click the link below for directions from the cafe to the Nui Beach parking area:**



Note: For directions from the Nui Beach parking area to the start of the Dragon Cape trail, see the previous page.



Cafe Hill Bistro

Note: You should arrive at Nui Beach no later than 6 PM to see the sunset and also catch a ride with the restaurant staff back up the hill to the parking area. It's also advisable to take a flashlight/headlamp with you just in case you can't get a ride back up the hill to the parking area. The trail to the top is almost 1 km and is steep with rocks and pot-holes in many places. Hiking it in the dark, without a flashlight, isn't advisable.



Nui Bay Sunset

KARON HILL JUNGLE TRAIL

Big Buddha Hill: The large white Buddha statue which sits atop Karon Hill is quite possibly one of the most popular tourist sites on Phuket Island. The statue is visible from a few kilometers away and seems to be a magnet for people wanting to snap some nice sightseeing selfies. The large platform which circles the statue also provides a vantage point for spectacular views to the east and west of the island. Access to the statue is by-way of a sealed road which winds its way up the hill from the eastern side (Phuket Town side).

Challenging Hike: For those who want a bit more of a challenge getting to the top, there's a jungle track up the western side of the hill. It starts at the end of **Soi 12, Karon**, and will definitely have you breathing hard by the time you top out on the road; some 400 meters short of the statue. The start of the trail is a bit hard to locate as it's a few hundred meters off the main road. To get there you will need to find Soi 12 then follow that almost to the end. There's some signage which will point you to the start of the hiking track (the immediate area is sur-



rounded by a rubber plantation). The 1 km trail is quite arduous in places and has fixed ropes to assist on the steeper sections. A reasonable pace will see you arrive on the hill top road in about 45 minutes. Once you hit the road, turn right and walk approximately 200 meters until you arrive at the Star Mountain Sunset café for a well-earned banana shake. **Click the link below for directions to the start of the trail:**



BANG WAD DAM FITNESS CIRCUIT

Bang Wad Dam: Bang Wad Dam is Phuket Island's main water supply reservoir and is located nearby **Phuket Country Club Golf Course**. It is frequented predominantly by Phuket residents as most tourists would probably not know the place exists, let alone being able to find their way there. The dam is in a picturesque hill setting, surrounded by jungle. **Click the link below for directions:**



Circuit Road: The main attraction is the 7 km road which circles the dam. The majority of people going there each afternoon do so for their daily exercise routines. The road has been set up with the inner side being a dedicated cycling lane, and the outer being for walking and jogging. There's a large parking area at the southern end of the dam wall where you leave your vehicle securely.

Doing the walk: The road across the top of the dam has been blocked off to vehicle access but joggers and cyclists are still able



to cross from one side to the other. The majority of people doing the circuit around the lake do so in an anti-clockwise direction. From the southern parking area you cross the dam first, then continue on the sealed road which has a dedicated cycling and jogging/walking lane. The tree growth is right up to the edges of the road so there's plenty of shade cover along the way. Take your own water bottle as there's no road side stalls to purchase any from.



MONKEY HILL JUNGLE TRAILS

Monkey Hill: This is another location popular with Phuket residents for getting their daily rounds of late afternoon exercise. The 300 meter high peak is located near Phuket Town and is distinguished by the array of TV station transmission towers protruding from the top. To get there you'll need to get onto Damrong Road and turn left at the intersection of Soi To Chae (the site is clearly marked on Google Maps). **Click the link below for directions:**



The Normal Route: There is a parking area at the bottom of the hill which gets quite crowded with locals around 5 PM each afternoon. The main attraction of the place is the view point at the top of the hill, and the large number of monkey's which hang around waiting for hand outs from the locals and visiting tourists. The hike to the top is by-way of the 1.9 km sealed road which has a reasonably gentle incline. Most hill walkers are able to get to the viewpoint in about 30 minutes.



The Jungle Hike: For those wanting a more challenging climb to the top, there's a hiking trail which snakes its way through 2 km of jungle before emerging at the TV transmission towers, at the very top of the peak. Some sections of the jungle trail are quite arduous. On the steeper stretches there are fixed ropes in place to assist with ascents and descents. There is actually 3 different routes which, depending on your fitness level and upper body strength, can be quite challenging.



MONKEY HILL PEAK

Three Trails: The easiest route is not too difficult and most hikers, although feeling rather fatigued, are able to make the climb. There are two waterfall ascents which branch off the main trail and these are a significant step up, in degrees of difficulty, from the standard route. The most challenging is the hike straight up the waterfall to the view-point. The upper 100 meters has a continuous run of fixed ropes and the gradient is sometimes between 40 - 50 degrees. Upper body strength is a definite requirement to haul yourself up this section of the trail.

A Good Workout: The hike to the top via the jungle trail can be quite strenuous if you don't have a good level of fitness. The dirt trail is also very uneven with rocks and protruding tree roots along at least eighty per cent of the way. Using good footwear such as sneakers or hiking shoes is highly advisable. The waterfall sections can also be slippery with slime or moss. Wearing flip flops is not a good idea as they provide no grip on the rock surface. Suffice to say there's a high risk of slipping and falling if using inappropriate footwear.



At the top

The Monkey's: A lot of visitors to the view point will invariably want to feed the monkeys with the peanuts and bananas that can be bought at the small shop there. Be careful as the monkeys have been known to snatch and bite on various occasions.

Click the link below to see a short highlights video of all the above mentioned OFF THE BEATEN TRACK locations around Phuket:



Monkey Hill

THE PHI PHI ISLANDS - GENERAL INFO

The Phi Phi Islands: Located approximately 48 km from Phuket Island, the Phi Phi Islands are visually stunning. The island group, in the Southern Andaman Sea, attracts large numbers of sightseers wanting swim, snorkel and scuba dive in the surrounding **crystal clear waters**.

Tsunami: In 2004 the islands were hit by the full force of a Tsunami, which devastated the accommodation and habitation area. . Nearly twenty years on, the island group has made a full recovery and now offers a wide range of accommodation, restaurant and touring options to cater to the large numbers of visitors. With this in mind it's difficult to understand where to go to avoid the endless tour groups. This section will offer helpful hints on getting to Phi Phi Islands, as an independent traveler, and where to find the less crowded spots.

Getting There: To do an independent day tour to Phi Phi Islands (one which doesn't lump you into a tour boat with a group once you arrive there) just tell the tour/booking agent you want the **round trip ferry fare**



Crystal Clear

only. This type of fare can be booked at any road side or hotel tour desk on Phuket Island. The fare includes the round trip ferry ride as well as minibus transportation from your hotel and back at the end of the day.

Note: If you're planning to stay overnight in Phi Phi, just book a one way ticket as your plans may change once you get out there.

Note: The dry season (November - April) is the best for water based activities at Phi Phi Islands.



Phi Phi Don Island

THE PHI PHI ISLANDS - TONSAI BAY

Hiring a boat at Phi Phi: When you arrive at Phi Phi the ferry disembarks all passengers at TONSAI BAY JETTY. For independent touring you'll need to hire a long tail boat for a given number of hours. **Note:** This will be determined by the ferry departure time back to Phuket. Under normal circumstances (in the dry season) you'll have around five hours of sightseeing time. The long tail boats for hire are usually parked along Tonsai Beach and, depending on your negotiating skills, can be hired for approximately 1500 THB for the day. **Click the link below for a map of Phi Phi Don Island:**



Be prepared: Before getting underway make sure you've got water, snacks and adequate sun protection as you'll be out on the open seas for a number of hours with no access to a shop. **Note:** Some of the boats have an awning to provide shade. If you're concerned about getting sun-burned, be sure to hire one of these.



Snorkeling: Additionally, if you're planning to do some snorkeling you'll need to bring the equipment with you. Independent boat hires/tours generally don't have snorkeling equipment on-board.

Maya Bay (Phi Phi Le): In years past this was the most popular sightseeing attraction at Phi Phi Islands. Due to the environmental impact (damage) of a high number of tourists (and boats) going there, this bay has now been closed indefinitely.



THE PHI PHI ISLANDS - PILEH LAGOON

Touring the islands: As mentioned your tour will start on the main island of Phi Phi Don. In the dry season the boat driver will probably head across to the smaller island of Phi Phi Le, to check out the scenery at PELIH LAGOON. The entrance to this visually impressive location is on the eastern side of the island. **Click the link below for a map of Phi Phi Le Island.**



Pileh Lagoon: Is a long inlet with clear, turquoise waters (you can see the sandy bottom) and vertical, limestone cliffs. On the way there you'll pass the VIKING CAVE, one of the mainstream tourist spots. If you're interested the boat driver will pull over so you can check it out.

Note: A tour through the Viking Cave will use up at least 30 minutes of your tour time so if you're only doing a day trip, it's something you may need to consider if your main priority is swimming and/or snorkelling.

Popular Location: Pileh Lagoon is a popular spot and therefore does tend to get a good



amount of boat traffic. The saving grace is it's quite large, once you go through the narrow entrance, so there's normally plenty of room between each boat. There is a number of small beaches at the bottom of the cliffs where you can go ashore to get some time off the boat and have your lunch. Normally about two hours is spent at Pileh Lagoon before heading back to Phi Phi Don Island, to make a stop at **Wang Long Bay**.



THE PHI PHI ISLANDS - WANG LONG BAY

Wang Long Bay: This small inlet is on the western side of the main island and quite stunning in its geography. As the boat cruises along the vertical cliff line you may be forgiven for thinking it's an impenetrable barrier. Approximately half-way along there's a break in the vertical limestone wall, where a narrow entrance leads to a small, picturesque beach further inside. **Click the link below to the location of Wang Long Bay:**



Wang Long Cave: Beyond the small beach, at the end of the inlet, is one of the biggest caves on Phi Phi islands. From the beach there's a series of bamboo ladders which go up through the jungle to the cave entrance. The cave is a place where the island locals go to collect sea swallow nests for the lucrative Chinese market. To venture into the cave you'll need permission as it's a place which is fiercely guarded by the locals who collect nests there. Once inside you'll see a labyrinth of bamboo poles hanging from the



cave walls and ceiling. These are the makeshift scaffolds the collectors use for accessing the difficult to get to swallow nests. Additionally, you'll need your own flashlight to safely explore the cave.

Phi Phi Viewpoint: This is high up on a peak on the eastern side of Phi Phi Don island. It has great views over the island but to get up there you may have to cut short your boat trip. To get there faster, you can hire a motorbike taxi.



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