

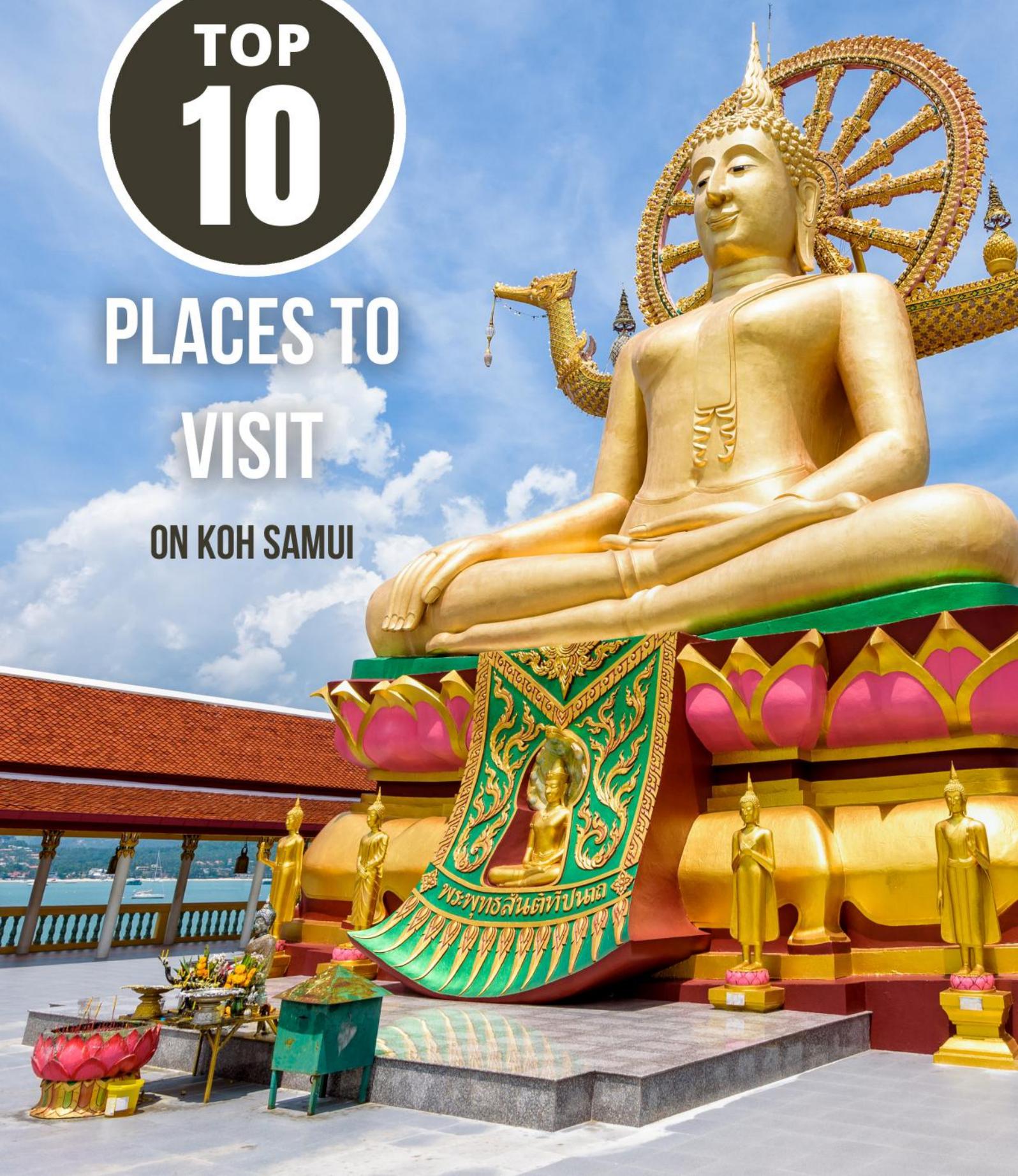


*Karma Shana*  
RESIDENCE

TOP  
**10**

PLACES TO  
VISIT

ON KOH SAMUI





# 01

## Big Buddha Bangrak

Open every day  
from 7:30 am to  
6:30 pm.

The "**Big Buddha**" Temple is located on a small rocky island in the northeast of Koh Samui. Known locally as Wat Phra Yai, its 12 metre high golden statue of a seated Buddha is one of the island's most popular attractions.

Located on Koh Faan, the temple is accessible via a causeway that connects it to the main island. The Big Buddha, which can be seen from several kilometres away, is often the first landmark people see when arriving on Koh Samui by plane.

Built in 1972, the sculpture of the Big Buddha is seated in the Mara posture.

The palm of the left hand upwards resting on the knees and the right hand downwards. It represents a moment in Buddha's journey to enlightenment. He was able to overcome the temptations and dangers imposed on him by the devil figure Mara by meditating and remaining calm. This pose is a symbol of firmness, purity and enlightenment.

**As this is a religious place, dress accordingly. Wear shirts or scarves to cover your shoulders, long trousers or shorts. Beachwear is not permitted.**



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# 02

## Wat plai laem Plai Laem

Open every day  
from 6:00 am to  
6:00 pm.

This temple is located 4 minutes from Big Buddha, so take the opportunity to visit it at the same time!

Wat Plai Laem is a Buddhist temple complex on the northeast coast of Samui, featuring a stunning 18-armed white image of Guanyin, the goddess of mercy and compassion. Located near the Temple of the Great Buddha, Wat Plai Laem offers visitors a glimpse of Chinese and Thai beliefs as well as elaborate Buddhist art and architecture.

Wat Plai Laem is a lively and active temple.

It is here that devotees come daily to pay homage to Guanyin and the Buddha, who is also depicted in a number of statues and murals around the temple. The temple is surrounded by a lake, which is full of fish. Visitors who make a donation to the temple receive a bag of food to feed the fish.

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# 03

## Fisherman's Village Bophut

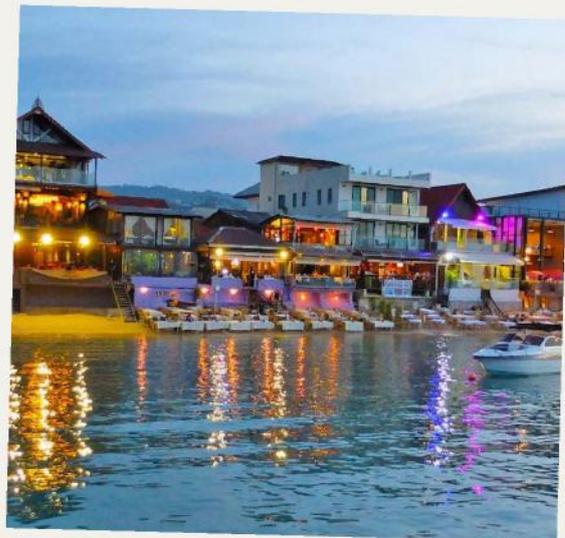
Best to visit in the evening.

Located in the north of Chaweng, the Bophut district is very pleasant and typical. It is one of the most sought after villages on the island as it is very well located and close to many amenities.

It is also known for the typical narrow streets of "**The Fisherman's Village**", the heart of this tourist area.

They are indeed one of the most picturesque attractions of Bophut. The beach, which is very well maintained, is smaller than Chaweng's, but it is very pretty, with a magnificent view over the island Koh Phangan.

With lovely wooden houses on the waterfront, most of which have been converted into restaurants or shops, Bophut has a relaxing and friendly atmosphere.



**FISHERMAN'S VILLAGE**



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# 04

## Koh Samui's fresh produce markets

Few travel guides mention the food markets on Koh Samui. However, they are the heart of life on the island and **it's exciting to walk around and discover!**

You will see many products that you have never seen before.

You will be surprised by the unrefrigerated meat stalls with just a fan, powered by a wiper motor to keep the insects away...

In our opinion this is a local experience to be really discovered.

### BANGRAK FRESH MARKET



### MAENAM FRESH MARKET



### LAMAI FRESH MARKET



### HUA THANON FRESH MARKET



### LIPA NOI FRESH MARKET





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# 05

## Wat Guan Yu Hua Thanon

Exceeding "Big Buddha" by 4 metres, the work represents Guan Yu, a Chinese Warlord living in the 2nd century, during the late Han dynasty. He played a fundamental role in the civil war that led to the demise of the Han dynasty and the establishment of the "Three Kingdoms" period, of which Liu Bei was the first emperor.

The Guan Yu Shrine aims to be the centre of the Chinese community on the island. In particular, free Mandarin classes will be taught to the descendants of the Chinese-Hainan, to help the children reconnect with their heritage.

The walls of the shrine are adorned with old photos of Koh Samui residents of Chinese lineage. Chinese or mixed Chinese-Thai families are encouraged to add information about their family tree through communication vectors such as written, video and audio portraits, so that future generations can keep the link with their forefathers.

It is a small "Chinatown" with restaurants, stores and Chinese medicine practitioners. The shrine is also used for weddings.



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關羽  
GUAN YU

ກວາຍູ

关羽

Guan Yu

ກວາຍູ ເປັນພະທານເອກະກະສັບທີ່ເປັນສັນຕິຕຳກັບ ໂລກຜູກພັນ ທີ່ເປັນ ທຸລະກິດ (ຄ.ສ.704-763)  
ເປັນສາວທີ່ເອກະກະສັບທີ່ເປັນສັນຕິຕຳກັບ ມີຈຸດເລັກລຽງໃນເລກທຸລະກິດ ສາມາດ ສາວ

关羽是三国时代蜀国刘备的名将，为五虎将之首。  
关羽字云长 本字长生 (公元160-220) 的在东汉朝廷任职

Guan Yu (160AD-219AD), otherwise known as



# 06

## Wat Samret Hua Thanon

This ancient temple is said to be the guardian of the ancient "White Marble Buddha", which many, including the resident monks, believe to be hundreds of years old. It also houses the "Secret Hall of Buddhas", a small "shrine" containing countless small statues, the largest of which is 3 metres tall and remains in a reclining position.

These statues are of great value and are the object of much covetousness. The doors of the hall are therefore locked, and only a monk can open the doors on request.

But most of the time, these doors are open in the afternoon and you can get in. Although the place is very small, it is still magical.

It's definitely a must-see!





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07

## Laem Sor Pagoda Laem Sor

From a distance, the pagoda appears to be made of gold as it is beautifully decorated with multiple small yellow tiles that offer an ochre colour in the sunlight. Standing on the reefs at the water's edge, it contrasts sumptuously with the turquoise of the sea. The entrance is guarded by two "Yak" (meaning giant), statues representing warriors, equipped with swords of imposing dimensions, and decorated with frightening faces. Buddha stands in the doorway, just behind the statues.





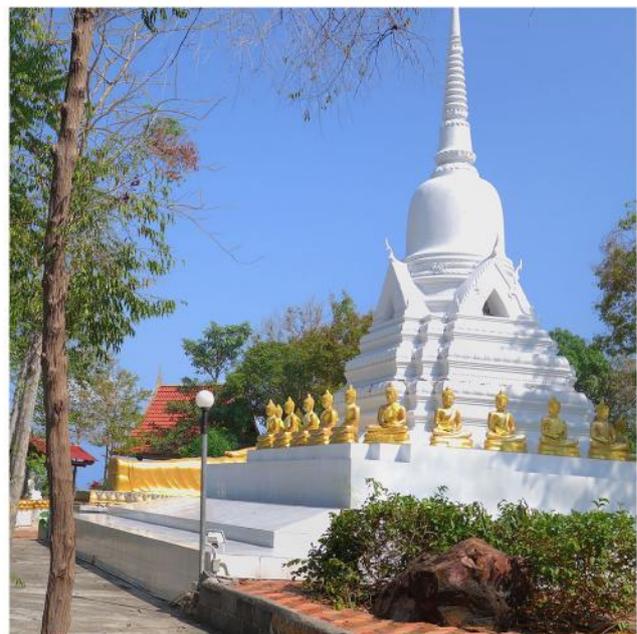
# 08

## Wat Khao Chedi Laem Sor

About 300 meters west of Laem Sor Chedi, a hill can be seen. At the base of the hill, a small hut can be seen. Then, 100 metres to the right of this house, the path is visible.

It leads to a staircase which must be climbed for about ten minutes. At the top, the quiet and restful ruins of Khao Chedi greet the intrepid explorer. In the centre stands the Reclining Buddha, a 10-metre high monument.

**The place offers a magnificent view of the "5 Islands".**





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# 09

## Hin Ta Hin Yai Lamai / Hua Thanon

This is undoubtedly one of the most famous tourist spots on Koh Samui: "Hin Ta Hin Yai" are amazing and fascinating rock formations that follow the shape of male and female genitalia.

A local legend tells that an old couple named "Ta Kreng" (Grandfather "Kreng") and "Yai Riem" (Grandmother "Riem") lived with their son in the southern province of Nakhon Si Thammarat.

As their son grew up, they decided it was time for him to get married.

One day, they went to the neighbouring province of Prachuap Khiri Khan to ask for the hand of the daughter of a man named "Ta Monglai".

Unfortunately, during their sea journey, their boat was caught in a storm. Thrown into the sea, the old couple were unable to swim to shore.

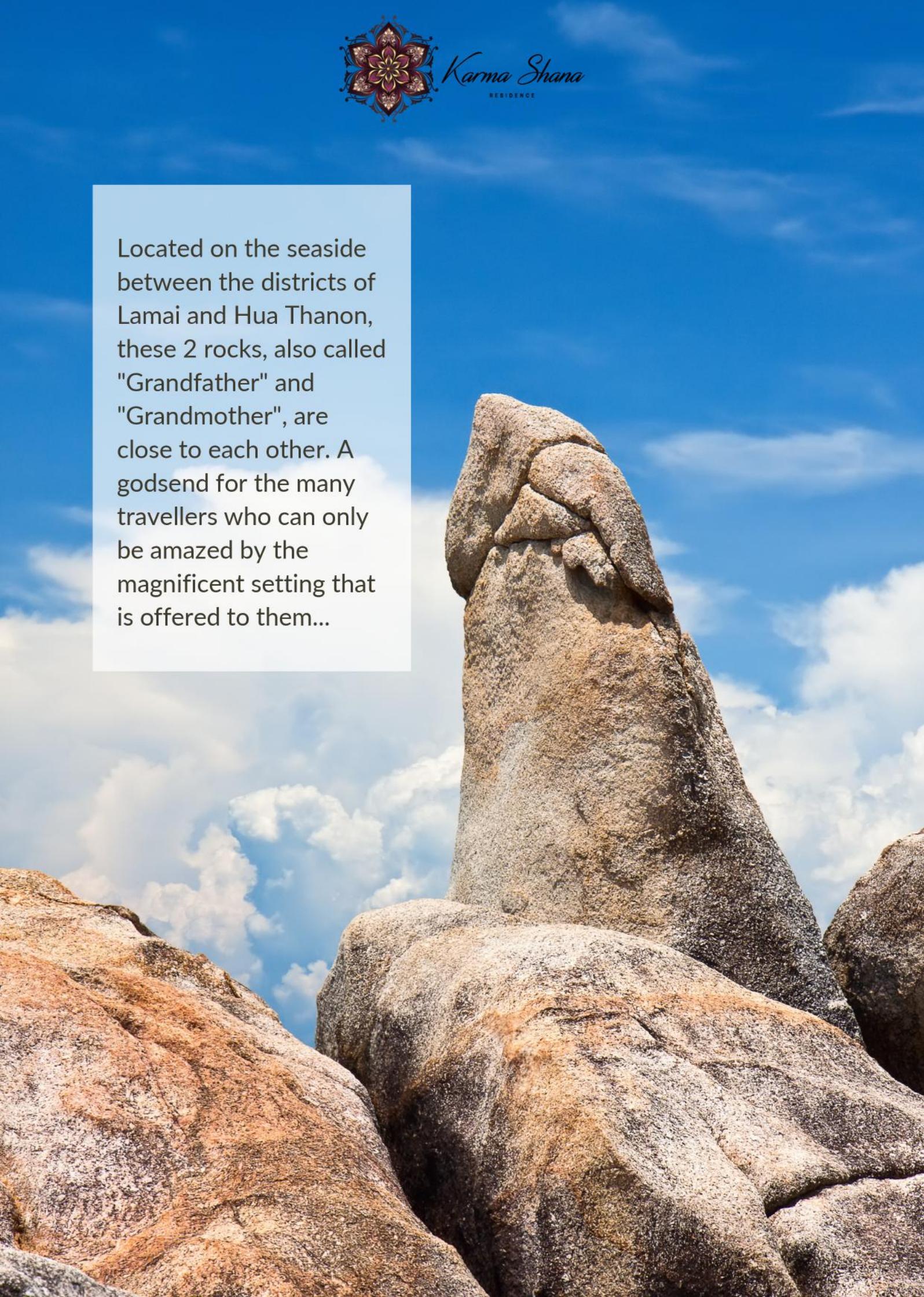
They drowned, turning themselves into rocks to prove to the bride's future parents their true intentions.

Since then, the rocks have stood and continue to amaze visitors.



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Located on the seaside between the districts of Lamai and Hua Thanon, these 2 rocks, also called "Grandfather" and "Grandmother", are close to each other. A godsend for the many travellers who can only be amazed by the magnificent setting that is offered to them...





# 10

## Pra Buddha Dīpankara heights of Lamai

This last place is a must-see and to add to your list. to add to your list...

The path to this temple is often difficult to access and goes up and up tirelessly. It is better to a 4 x 4 or to be adept at trekking (in a 2-wheelers it can quickly become problematic).

However, once you get there you can only be amazed by the by the panorama which is offered to us. Near the temple, a large statue of the temple, a large statue representing Buddha standing overhangs the domain surrounded by sculptures showing all the zodiac signs all the Chinese zodiacal signs. A few metres away, a huge reclining Buddha lends its imposing stature to the surrounding nature.

