## Twelve Recommended Tourist Destinations in Thailand



As part of its new "Discover Thainess" campaign, the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) has recommended 12 provinces that tourists should not miss when they are in Thailand.

The campaign aims to emphasize the priceless treasures of the country – the people, the culture, and society.

The 12 provinces that are recognized

as "hidden gems" include Lampang, Phetchabun, Nan, Buriram, Loei, Samut Songkhram, Ratchaburi, Trat, Chanthaburi, Trang, Chumphon, and Nakhon Si Thammarat.

There are 77 provinces in Thailand, which are divided into five regions: North, Northeast, East, Central, and South. Each province contains unique cultural, historical, and natural attractions. Among them, 10 major destinations – Bangkok, Ayutthaya, Chiang Mai, Phuket, Krabi, Hua Hin, Pattaya, Samui, Hat Yai, and Phang-nga – are currently drawing a number of tourists from across the world. The 12 irresistible destinations comprise two or three provinces each from the five regions of Thailand.

TAT Governor Thawatchai Arunyik said that these 12 provinces would surely give travelers something extra to remember from the trip to the Land of Smiles.

Representing the North are Lampang, where time stands still, Phetchabun, mist shrouded mountains of flowers, and Nan, the most romantic province in Thailand. In the Northeast, two enchanting provinces not to miss are Buriram, where ancient Khmer and modern Thai civilizations meet, and Loei, the province with the most pleasant climate in the country.

In the Central Plains, two fascinating provinces are Samut Songkhram for its unique riverbased lifestyles and Ratchaburi for its famous art and craft communities. Representing the East are Trat and Chanthaburi. Trat has been selected as an ideal destination to enjoy pristine islands and beaches, while Chanthaburi is home to all fruits of Thailand.

In the South, Trang is the place to be for nature and food lovers, Chumphon for beautiful beaches and crystal clear sea, and Nakhon Si Thammarat for a variety of distinctive religious and natural attractions.

The TAT Governor said that international travelers might not know that these secondary tourist destinations offer all the distinctive traditions and cultural attractions, sites of historical importance, and abundant natural resources.