



Explore Bangkok - Thon Buri

At Watthakat BTS Station, take exit 4. At the bottom of the exit steps, turn 180° following the sign for 'Watthakat Train Stop'.



Walk ahead to the pedestrian crossings at the road junction.



Cross over the main road at the traffic lights using the pedestrian crossings, turning left under the expressway, then walk north on the right-hand side of the main road.



After walking about 400 metres along the main road, turn right into Soi 13. The sign is a bit hard to see, but remember that the soi on this side of the road have odd numbers. You'll enter a narrow alley filled with lively local market stalls and street food¹. This small but vibrant and authentic market leads to the end of the alley. Bear left through a modern complex, and you'll find the train tracks.





Turn left and follow the rough path on the left side of the tracks for about 30 metres. Cross the tracks² and turn right down a narrow alley. Be aware that the narrow-gauge train carriages overhang the tracks by at least a metre on either side, so stay well back if a train approaches.



Follow the winding alley until you come to an intersection, and then turn left. Continue following the alley as it turns to the right, then turn left. Ahead at the T-junction, turn right. When you get to a footbridge over a canal, follow the narrow path to its left, staying on the left-hand side of the canal.³



Follow the canal path to the end and then go left up a short slope to the train tracks. Turn right and walk over the railway bridge.



After crossing the railway bridge, follow the path on the left.⁴ You'll find a row of homes with small, carefully tended gardens. Continue for about 100 metres to the level crossing. Cross to the other side of the tracks and stay on the path, which runs along a "linear village" of homes of all shapes, sizes, and states of repair.



When the tarmac and concrete path changes to stones, cross to the left-hand side of the tracks. In the next 50 m or so of pathway, there are a few metres that are quite narrow and close to the railway tracks. Make sure you move well back, at least 2 m from the track, if a train approaches.





Ahead, you will see an overpass and two level crossings. Follow the railway over the level crossings, and you are then at Talat Phlu station.



The station is quite a pleasant place to stop and rest for a while. There are some simple food stalls and some seats to sit on. When you're ready to move on, go back to the first level crossing and turn right. Talat Phlu Main Market is just across the main road underneath the highway. There are also shops and small market areas in the surrounding streets.⁵



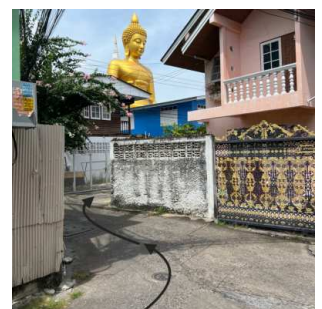
After exploring the market, continue walking under the expressway. Turn left onto a small access road and you will see an old brick building. Walk down the lane beside it for 200 m, then turn right at the T-junction. Follow the road as it curves to the left. You will soon see the golden Buddha's head rising above the rooftops. Cross a small canal and continue straight. The lane will narrow into an alleyway.



Some narrow, interesting alleys are coming up on your left in the next 100 metres. Feel free to explore them—it's easy to either loop around or just retrace your steps to get back to the main path.⁶



Continuing in your original direction, you will get to this point in a few metres. Turn left and then immediately right.





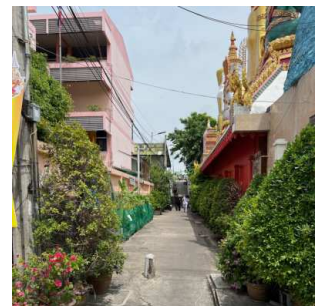
Walk about 20 m to the canal⁷ for a magnificent view of Phra Buddha Dhammakāya Thepmongkhon (commonly called the Great Buddha of Paknam or just Giant Golden Buddha), which is located in Wat Pak Nam Phasi Charoen.



Go back the way you came. At the T-junction, turn right. Follow the alley as it twists and turns, then go over a small canal. After you pass through the arch with tigers, turn right at the road, then immediately turn left.



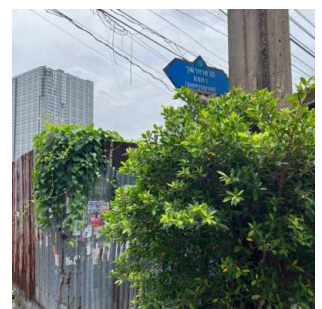
About 50 m further on your right, you'll see a small alley that leads to a bridge over the canal. From there, you can get a good view of the back of the Buddha statue.



Continue following the road in the temple complex to the left, then turn right at the T-junction with the main road. After about 100 m, the road curves to the right. At this point, use the pedestrian crossing to cross over the road and go down Soi 41 on the other side.



Walk 100 m to the end and follow the lane to the left. Walk a further 100 m, then turn right down a narrow alley, Soi 10.





Continue straight, crossing a small canal and then an intersection. You will see some beautiful old wooden homes down an alley on your left. Continue to follow the lane right then left. Walk to the end and you will see Wutthakat BTS Station ahead. Go over the access road, walk under the highway and slightly to the left you will see the entrance.

