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## Traveling to Wat Suan Mokkh from Surat Thani Town

*Traveling to Wat Suan Mokkh, the wat established by Bhikkhu Buddhadasa. The retreat center is called Wat Suan Mokkh International Dhamma Hermitage and is located on the other side of the highway from the wat.*

From Surat Thani Town, travel to “Bus station 1” located here:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/WtcJu5KzACF7UzAUA>

There are many different bus transportation agencies located here.

At bus station 1, find the bus agency that travels to Chumphon, the province north of Surat Thani. The bus transportation agency location is here: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/xhh1CxW47AJ7S4FJ8>

Google maps states it’s “permanently closed”, but it's not.

Thai people can be found hanging around the bus station asking foreigners the question “Where are you going?” If unable to find the transportation agency yourself, you can probably ask someone. Just saying “Chiya” or “Wat Suan Mokkh” should be all you need to communicate. They might try to sell you a private ride in their car first, but say you want “bus.”

A one-way bus ticket to Chiya is 80 baht. Vehicles leave throughout the day starting pretty early in the morning. Mention to the ticket salesman and especially the driver that you want off at Wat Suan Mokkh.

The ride takes about 1 hour. You want to arrive at Wat Suan Mokkh before 6PM because the front desk registration closes at that time. It also gets dark and the wat doesn't really have much lighting.

## Traveling to Wat Suan Mokkh from Surat Thani Airport

From Suan Mokkh website:

It is possible to catch a taxi at the airport (approx. 500 baht) or public transport at the airport gate at the highway (approx. 35 baht) directly to Suan Mokkh without having to go into Surat Thani. It may take up to 1 hour to cover this distance by public transport. Public transport will cease around 3.30pm.

## Traveling From Suan Mokkh to Surat Thani

If you're at Wat Suan Mokkh and want to go back to Surat Thani town, wait at the bus stop across the street from the entrance to Suan Mokkh. The bus stop is shown in the photograph:



The traffic will be headed southbound on this side of the road. The vehicle is a blue songthaeo (converted pick-up truck). It may only arrive at the bus stop in the afternoon. Price is 80 baht.

## Extending Visa in Surat Thani Town

There is an immigration office located 15 km outside of surat thani town where one can take care of visas including extending visa stay.

This immigration office is outside the city. I recommend ordering a Grab taxi to get there. It's about 170,180 Baht one-way from downtown Surat Thani. It may be possible that the Grab driver can wait for you while you apply for the extension.

It takes a very short time to wait as very few people come here. This immigration office also only requires the TM7 form to be filled out, not the TM30 notification form. Here is a total list of requirements to apply for the extension of stay:

1. Passport
2. TM7 Form filled out (blank copies available at the office)
3. Photocopy of visa, entry stamp, passport ID page, departure card (if you have it). You must sign each photocopied page.
4. 1 x passport sized photo
5. 1900 Baht

To make photocopies in colour or black and white, I recommend this store in Surat Thani:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/NQ5EZ9KQirWnZiS9A>

## Traveling from Koh Pha ngan/Koh Samui to Surat Thani

For traveling between Surat Thani and the islands (koh pha ngan/koh Samui), I recommend the transportation company **Seatran**. The price is 380 baht from Koh Pha Ngan to Surat Thani town.

Office location at Surat Thani Town:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/FJjGQR768GhBmi9h7>

Website: <https://www.seatranferry.com/>

## Traveling from Wat Suan Mokkh to the town of Chiya

Chiya is the district of Wat Suan Mokkh. Downtown Chiya has a rail station and many stores and markets are available as one may require.

To get to downtown Chiya, you can take a blue songthaew that passes by the bus stop outside the gate of Wat Suan Mokkh. The songthaew is 25 baht for one way. It will arrive at the Chiya rail station, a distance of 5km from Wat Suan Mokkh.

The times it arrives at the bus stop are 9:30 AM, 11:30 AM, 1:30 PM.

The songthaew also goes back to Wat Suan Mokkh again, but the times back vary. The last time it departs back southbound to Wat Suan Mokkh is 4 PM.