

## Phuket Island, Thailand

Source: Journal of Coastal Research, 105(sp1)

Published By: Coastal Education and Research Foundation

URL: https://doi.org/10.2112/1551-5036-105.sp1.i

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## **COVER PHOTOGRAPH**



**Phuket Island, Thailand.** Located in the southwest of Thailand, Phuket Island is adjacent to Panya Province of Thailand by the Bapa Strait in the north, the Krabi Province on the other side across the Panya Bay in the east, and the Andaman Sea on the west and south. Phuket is known as "the pearl of the Andaman Sea" for its charming tropical scenery and rich tourism resources. The main mineral is tin, but also rich in rubber, seafood and a variety of fruits. The island industry and commerce, tourism are more developed. The capital Phuket town is located in the southeast of the island. Phuket Island, as its name implies, covers 70% of its area with hilly terrain, lush vegetation and greenery. From an airplane view, Phuket Island looks like a "green pearl" on the Andaman Sea. Phuket Island has a famous "3S landscape," which comes from the local people's summary of their hometown sunshine, sea, and sand. These gifts from nature are regarded as the most precious possessions by the pious Thais.

Phuket Island is full of beaches and bays, including Camara beach known for its cleanliness, Sulin beach with private style, Coral Island where sea sports are often held, and Badong Beach with rich nightlife, *etc.* Pengya Bay, located 75 kilometers northeast of Phuket Island, belongs to Pengya Prefecture and is known as the most beautiful place in the whole island. There are hundreds of tiny limestone islands, as well as stalactite caves. Thongsai Falls contains Phuket's last intact tropical rainforest, as well as Bang Pae Falls and the Phuket Gibbon Feeding Center, the Gibbon Feeding Center. Padang Beach is the most developed beach area in Phuket Island. The water here is clear and there are many kinds of life in the water. It is recognized as one of the best diving places in Asia. (Photograph taken July 2018 by Mings Yuan, Science & Engineering Research Center, Hong Kong, China.)