

Bookmark These Little-Known Natural Attractions In Mae Hong Son, Thailand



There are three other caves inside the grotto cave, which can be visited year round.

Pang Ma Pha Grotto Cave 2

All visitors must be accompanied by a guide, who will provide a lamp and a raft; the cave is too dark and dangerous for those unfamiliar with the route.

Zutongpae Bridge

One of the top tourist attractions in Mae Hong Son, this bamboo bridge, which connects Kung Mai Sak Village with Dhamma Poo Sama Garden, is the longest bamboo bridge in Thailand. 'Zutongpae' means success in the Thai Yai lan-



guage, and local belief has it that if you stand in the middle of the bridge and make a wish for success, it will come true.

With its beautiful natural environment and the local village surrounding it, the bridge is beautifully sunlit every morning, even as mist envelops it, contrasting with the colour of the rice fields. This is also the time when monks make their rounds collecting alms along the bridge.

Pai Canyon

Also known as Kong Lan, Pai Canyon is the place to be at sunset for a 360-degree view of the sun setting behind the mountains. The canyon has been naturally created

by wind and rain erosion, with steep, narrow pathways surrounded by trees and green-blanketed mountains – so be careful while you walk

Sai Ngam Hot Spring

Also called Pong Sai Ngam Hot Spring, this natural spring is located 15 kilometres away from Pai district.

It has three terraced basins that look like small waterfalls; the highest is a favourite with visitors because the water is clear and still, with white sand beneath.

The lower basin has green water. The spring is popular for its relaxing amid the lush natural setting. The fee is 20 baht per person.



Immerse yourself in nature with these four fascinating visitor attractions in Mae Hong Son, Thailand

Located in northern Thailand, Mae Hong Son is a mountainous retreat with a strong Burmese influence.

The quiet area is sparsely populated and not really geared for tourism; indeed the draws here are the fabulous mountains perfect for hiking and exploring, the hill tribe communities, and the cultural influences around.

Mae Hong Son can be reached via a six- to eight-hour drive from Chiang Mai.

Pang Ma Pha Grotto Cave

Tham Nam Lod – as this cave (main image) is locally known – is home to stunning natural stalactites and stalagmites surrounded by leafy trees.

Because many prehistoric tools and utensils – thought to be about 2,000 years old – have been found in it, the cave is also an important archaeological site.



4 Ways To Hop Onto The Quiet Luxury Interior Trend



Quiet luxury is a trend that has been here for decades and has now managed to take the décor industry by storm. The trend is synonymous with minimalist aesthetics and high-end staples. The versatility, subtle colour palette and textures add comfort and class to any aesthetic. The use of elevated basics focuses on the refinement and elegance of personal space. Some examples of these basics can be muted-

coloured walls, furniture with nude linens, matured wood, marble, and classic solid-coloured décor items.

'Less is more' is a phrase commonly associated with quiet luxury, therefore decorating residential and corporate spaces with premium quality pieces is the key. The basic idea behind adopting the trend of quiet luxury is to reduce the chaotic approach towards décor and interior design. Instead of using bold prints, vibrant colours, and flashy décor, one can easily attain an appealing and luxurious home or workspace without using a lot of colours or décor pieces.

While it represents everything minimal, it isn't really a minimalist approach, but more of using the right palette of muted colours, playing with textures, and timeless décor items that add a sophisticated touch to any corner of the room. Here are a few of the easiest ways to inculcate this aesthetic in your own space and experience quiet luxury.

The Mantra Is 'Less Is More'

The simple concept that binds minimalism and quiet luxury or stealth luxury is making the best out of less. Minimalist luxury transcends overwhelming and flashy décor and details. Quiet luxury in fashion represents classic staples and elegant timeless pieces without loud prints and big logos. Similarly, interior

design also embraces quiet luxury with the use of clean lines, organised spaces, and functional design.

Focus On Quality And Craftsmanship

To attain the exact quintessence of quiet luxury, there are multiple details and aspects of design you can leverage. Select fine raw materials and décor items with excellent craftsmanship and endurance. Employ natural materials like wood, stones, and plants. Using beautiful walnut wooden panelling on walls, opting for the right coloured stone/marble for flooring, and big and small planters to bring nature closer to you, can make a lot of difference.

Warm Or Neutral Colour Palette

The inclination towards a simple and sorted colour palette embraces the minimalist approach. The use of muted and neutral tones like soft greys, earthy hues, warm shades of beige, and a similar monochromatic colour scheme adds richness and depth to the space. Any organic colour palette that doesn't overpower the essence of the room would do wonders to the décor. Even Pantone Colour of the Year: Peach Fuzz makes for a good addition to this colour palette.

Soft Furnishings

Vintage and heirloom pieces and furniture scream 'old money' aesthetic. One can create a refined and



exquisite atmosphere with them. Soft opulence can include anything from rich textured linen to well-crafted neutral tone planters and more. These are just a few things you can include while planning your interiors. Quiet luxury is more than just a trend, it is a way of living and creating an uncluttered atmosphere to focus more on the people you love and the work you are doing. It helps you concentrate on the right things and creates a sense of peace due to its soft and warm effect.

Emerging Business Trends - 2025

Sunil Goenka

With India emerging as a global "Business Player" and poised to be the "Third largest Global Economy," the business landscape here is bound to undergo drastic "Transformation."

Considering that India continues to enjoy relatively rapid economic growth and strives for a multipolar world in which New Delhi is one of the poles, businesses in India need critical positioning.

Guided by PM Narendra Modi's mantra: Reform, Perform, Transform, businesses - corporate houses, large industrial houses, service sector, and MSMEs - need to study and analyse global emerging business trends in 2025.

Let's talk here about some emerging business trends that will play a pivotal role in shaping businesses, globally.

The trends shaping business development in 2025 are digital transformation, lateral hiring, strategic partnerships, and M&A -with new insight, collaboration, and adaptability. Besides, there would be an amalgamation of digital & human dynamics.

No way, businesses can thrive on technology only, talent needs to be identified to drive the business.

"Technology is a useful servant, but a dangerous master."

This idiom would return in full glory with firms bringing in experienced professionals with established client networks allowing firms to bolster their capabilities and unlock new opportunities. Known as lateral hiring, it will drive growth, with which they would be able to overcome the challenge of integrating talent without disrupting the culture that enabled their success - a critical balancing act!

The buzzword would be "Data." By prioritizing data hygiene and integration as part of the digital transformation strategy, the firms would ensure their technology investments drive measurable outcomes. A well-executed digital transformation strategy would be the need of the hour to streamline processes, developing insights needed to



Some will argue that the demands of the future of businesses.

There would be a visible shift favouring strategic, long-term partnerships over transactional client relationships in 2025. Clients would be looking at an expansive role by firms to act as trusted advisors, offering tailored, proactive solutions instead of one-off services. This shift requires firms to deepen client relationships, focusing on mutual growth and sustained value.

Another emerging trend would be M&A (Mergers & Acquisitions) which is set to play a pivotal role in the development of professional services firms. After a slowdown in recent years, 2025 is expected to witness a resurgence in M&A activity.

"Green business is good business," would take centre stage of the strategy of businesses. Consumers' preferences shifting in favour of environmentally friendly and sustainable business practices would be a key driver of change in 2025.

This will lead to the development of "Circular Economies" where the focus is on reusing materials and recycling resources in a "closed loop" system to reduce waste and minimize environmental footprint is a core focus.

The ambition of "Intelligent Enterprise" will drive companies to become confident with using AI strategically, moving beyond pilots and proofs-of-concept, to be a reality in 2025. The deployment of AI to automate routine tasks, analyse large datasets for insights, and enhance decision-making processes would gain momentum.

Last but not least, foreseeing uncertainty around economic conditions, international security, volatile market conditions and conflicts in various regions, would be an understatement in 2025. There is a need to infuse AI (Artificial Intelligence) with HI (Human Intelligence) to survive and adapt to these disruptions - known as resilience.

Water, Hope, and Empowerment: Sunita's story of resilience

Every mother dreams of providing the warmth of a secure home and a nurturing learning environment for her children, but for Sunita, the reality was starkly different. Living her entire life in a remote tribal village, in Patna, Chhatrapur district, Madhya Pradesh, Sunita did not have access to basic facilities that adversely impacted her life. Now, her 11-year-old daughter, Sapna, also faces the same future.

Sunita is from an economically marginalized family. Despite her humble beginnings, she aspired for a better life after marriage.

However, her dreams were shattered when her husband died at an early age, leaving her to fend for their children. Tragedy continued to strike as she lost her elder son in a terrible accident. Without any anchor now, the family struggled to make ends meet. The entire burden of running the household was on Sunita's shoulders. She had no choice but to leave her young daughter alone at home, traveling six kilometers every day to bring water.

This meant that little Sapna had to cook, do the laundry, clean the home, and partake in other household chores preventing her from pursuing her education despite being a bright student. Sunita always knew her daughter Sapna was interested in attending school, but the household situation led her to take on tough responsibilities.

Finally, hundreds of families like that of Sunita's and Sapna's could breathe a sigh of relief as Anandana-The Coca-Cola India Foundation, alongside Haritika, took on the crucial task of replenishing water in the village. This access to water liberated the villagers from the relentless cycle of water scarcity, allowing them to pursue other interests or jobs, including education and livelihood opportunities.

Sunita never had to step out of the



house again to fetch water and could take care of the household duties, while her daughter went to school. "A big tank has been constructed in our village through which I am getting tap water in my house. Now my mother and sister-in-law do not need to go out to fetch water and we can divide work among us. At last, I can go to school and pursue my dreams," said Sapna with a gleeful smile.

As part of Coca-Cola India's #SheTheDifference campaign, aimed at empowering women, many have benefited positively, gaining newfound self-reliance and financial independence. The water replenishment initiatives in the village proved transformative, not just for Sunita and Sapna, but for the entire community.

The installation of a substantial water tank improved the laborious task of water collection that previously con-

sumed much of the villagers' time and energy. Water, a fundamental necessity for life, was no longer a barrier but a catalyst for progress. With the burden of water collection lifted, families could allocate their time more efficiently, enabling them to engage in income-generating activities and improving their overall quality of life.

Moreover, the impact extended beyond practicalities to societal norms. Witnessing the positive changes brought about by the water initiatives, young boys in the village took up the household responsibilities previously considered the domain of women, challenging entrenched gender stereotypes.

This shift not only empowered women like Sunita to dream of a brighter future but also fostered a more equitable and inclusive community.

