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CHIN STATE

# THE RIH LAKE

Rih, the heart shape, Lake lies in the western part of Falam Township. It is one of the most magnificent and beautiful lakes in Myanmar and considered the heart of the picturesque Chin State. The body of water viewed from above resembles a heart. The lake is about 1.5 km in length and 0.8 km in width and situated 2,800 feet above sea level. It is about 60 feet depth and 3 miles in diameter. The lake is full all year round and turns a reddish color in December every year. Chin people believe that all spirits have to pass through the lake. The locals, and even people from India, believe that their ancestors' souls are alive in the lake and go to pray there. It is about 101 km from Falam and 48 km from Tedim. It can be accessible by car from Falam and Tedim.

#### **CHIN NEW YEAR FESTIVAL**

Chin New Year festival is held annually on the waxing moon of the month Kason, May. The festival is performed a dance as making farewell to the old year and welcoming New Year. And wishing everyone new life with new vitality and happiness. In festival, Sa Lan dance is performed by beautiful maidens. It is the dance to memorize the conquest over the enemies, the killing of wild enemies and to celebrate the victory over the enemies Sa ice festival dances victory over the wild games.



(combination of harvest thanksgiving and New Year Celebration)

Khua Do new year festival is held as part of their traditions and customs since ancient times and it is the seasonal festival of Chin nationals without discrimination of any religion, class or creed annually. The whole village participates in harmony as the greatest, merriest and the most significant festival. Holding of Khua Do festival is a grand affair marking the success of farming and also wishing the villagers to be in good health, wealth and free from diseases.

#### **BUNGTLA WATERFALL**

Bungtla Waterfall, 26 km away from Matupi, is the longest waterfall in Chin State. In Chin State, Bungtla waterfall is one the most famous natural resources. The height of Bungtla waterfall is over 1500 ft and it falls by 9 levels. Even though Bungtla is flowing in nine levels, it is available 5 levels to go. The rest 4 levels are almost impossible to reach. We can observe and research rare biodiversity and rare species of reptiles and can see the attached honeycomb on the wall of rocky waterfall. It can be reached by car from Hakha.





## **TATTOOED FACES**

The ladies belong to the Chin Tribe are famous for their tattooed faces. In the southern part of the region, many Chin ladies still have traditional facial tattoos. No one knows exactly how the custom originated, but one theory is that the tattoos began years ago as a form of identification when women were captured or kidnapped by neighboring tribes. Another legend is that the tattoos were a way of intentionally disfiguring the woman's beauty so that they would not be taken to marriage by the Burmese king. Most of them got their tattoos when they were around 12 years old. The whole process can take up to 3 days. The tattoo needles are usually made from bamboo skewers or from thorns. The ink is a mixture of ox bile, soot, plants and lard. The Chin women are famed for their tattooed faces.



COMMUNITY BASED TOURISM IN CHIN STATE

Community Based Tourism (CBT) has been initiated at Mother Earth Mountain in Sor Long village, Kanpalet township in Chin State . Mother Earth Mountain, also known as Mt. Victoria a term left over from colonial days, is now better known in Myanmar "Nat Ma Tung" or in Chin Language "Khaw Nau Sone". As there are many attractions such as virgin forest, wild orchids, colorful butterflies and natural environments, visitors can enjoy eco adventure in Kaw NauSone National Park. They will have a chance to join in with Sor Long's traditional way of life by sitting down to a local meal with the villagers and enjoying Chin dances with drinking traditional wine and musical performances. Visitors can also do the bird watching, Hiking and Trekking in Sor Long village.

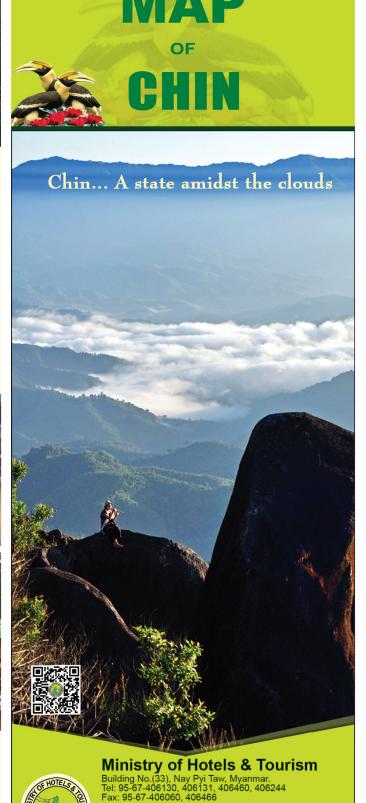






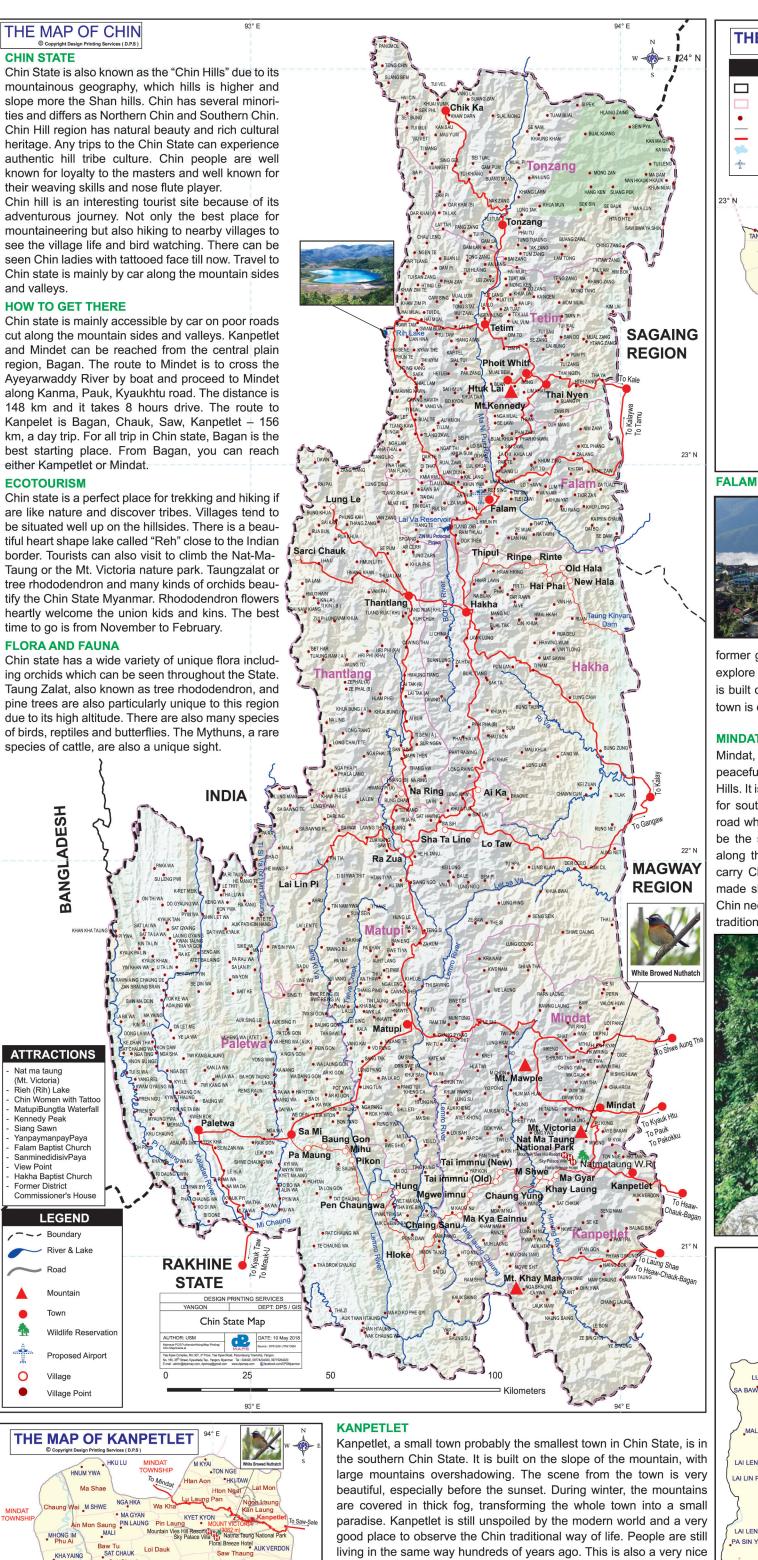
## TARSHUN VILLAGE

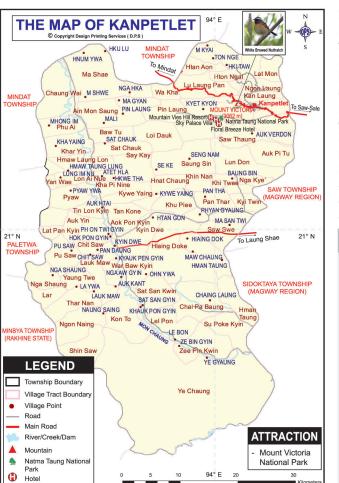
Tarshun Community Based Tourism has been opened and implemented on 31st March, 2018 in Chin State. Tarshun is the village of Chin National Leader, Bo John Bi (Bo Swan Part). It can be observed Chin traditional house, unusual village organization and social life historical evidences.



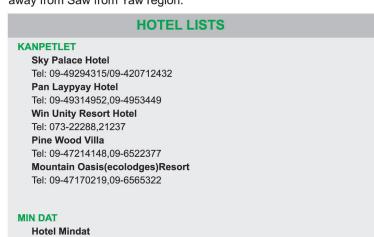
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**TOURIST** 

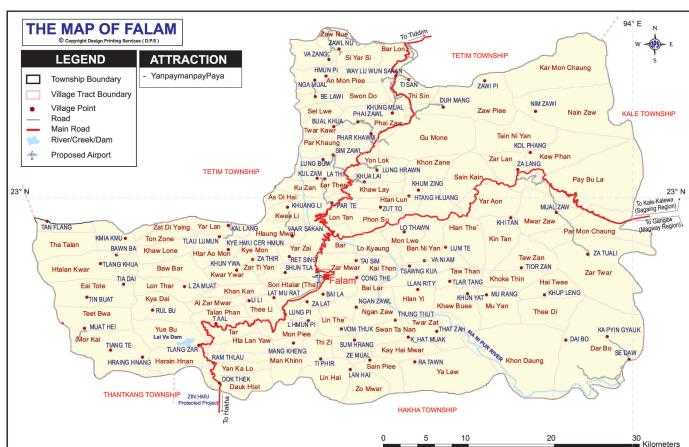




place to do trekking. In near Kanpetlet, there has Mount Victoria National Park and the Wild Life Reserved. It is better to use Kampellet as base camp to watch birds and butterflies (especially beautiful in this area). The town is just about 80 km away from Mindat, and only 19 km away from Saw from Yaw region.



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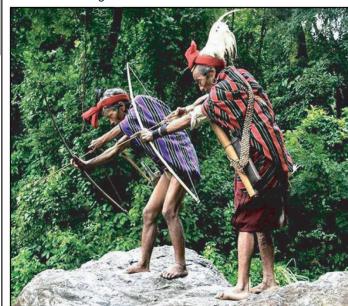


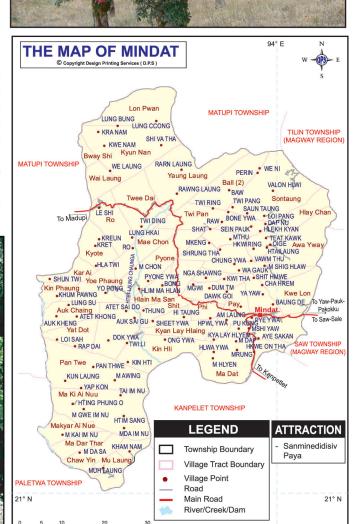
Located within the mountains, this tranquil town has breathtaking Before 1965, falam was the capital city of Chin State. Although no longer the capital, it still retains part of its

former glory. There are beautiful colonial heritage buildings to explore and a grand Baptist Church in the centre of the town. It is built on the slope of a mountain rane, in multiple steps. The town is quite clean and tidy.

#### **MINDAT**

Mindat, the most easiest to reach town in Chin Hills, is beautiful, peaceful and tranquil town and situated in Southern part of Chin Hills. It is situated at 1482 m above the sea level and trading hub for southern Chin state. Tall pine trees line the approaching road while distant mountains shadow the town. Then there will be the small, beautiful wooden houses with scenic backdrop along the main road. Local people still wear Chin dress and carry Chin baskets and knives while some men carry locally made shot guns on the streets. Many women dress beautiful Chin necklaces while some old women still wear enormous Chin traditional earrings.







#### **MATUPI**

The main roads from Matupi are: one that goes to Mindat (102 miles long) and the other one goes to Hakha township (173 miles long). Both roads leading to Matupi are not well-paved roads. There is beautiful scenery along the roads. Matupi is extremely amiable and affectionately beautiful. It is home to several tribes. The township has much to be explored. The virgin environments of the township are breathtakingly



LEGEND

TOWNSHIP BOUND

TOWN POINT

VILLAGE POINT

RIVER/CREEK/DAM