

# Nui Ba Den Cultural and Historical Site

## Alternative site name(s)

None

## Province(s)

Tay Ninh

## Status

Decreed

## Management board established

Yes

## Latitude

11°21' - 11°25'N

## Longitude

106°09' - 106°11'E

## Bio-unit

05b - South Annam



## Conservation status

Nui Ba Den was included on Decision 194/CT of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, dated 9 August 1986, as a 2,000 ha cultural and historical site (MARD 1997). In 1997, Ho Chi Minh City Sub-FIPI prepared an investment plan for the cultural and historical site, which gave the area of the site as 1,638 ha. This investment plan was approved by MARD on 21 March 1997, following Official Letter No. 842NN/PTLN/CV. On 16 July 1997, Decision No. 261D/QD of Tay Ninh Provincial People's Committee approved the investment plan and established a management board for the cultural and historical site. Nui Ba Den Cultural and Historical Site is currently under the management of Tay Ninh Provincial DARD (Tay Ninh Provincial FPD 2000). Nui Ba Den is not included on the 2010 list (FPD 1998).

## Topography and hydrology

Nui Ba Den is a montane isolate on the Tay Ninh plain. The mountain has three summits, the highest of which, Mount Ba Den, is 986 m high. The lowest point in the cultural and historical site is 50 m, at the foot of the mountain. A few streams originate on the mountain and flow into the eastern branch of the Vam Co river.

## Biodiversity value

The vegetation cover at Nui Ba Den is mainly scrub vegetation dominated by shrubs, climbers and scattered trees. Data on the flora and fauna of the site are scarce, except for data on reptiles and amphibians. Between May 1998 and September 1999, the herpetofauna of Nui Ba Den was studied by Pham Van Hoa *et al.* (2000). The authors recorded a total of 59 species of reptile and 12 species of amphibian, including 14 species listed in the *Red Data Book of Vietnam*.

## Conservation issues

During the Second Indochina War, Nui Ba Den was sprayed with defoliants and heavily bombed by US forces (Storey and Robinson 1995). Today, the remaining natural forest at Nui Ba Den is being converted into agricultural land, particularly fruit gardens (Vu Van Dung pers. comm.). Tay Ninh Provincial FPD (2000) identify cutting of trees for timber and fuelwood, and hunting of mammals as the biggest threats to biodiversity at Nui Ba Den. The populations of some animal species are being reduced as a result of over-exploitation by local people for domestic consumption or for sale to restaurants that specialise in wild animal meat.

## Other documented values

Over the centuries, Nui Ba Den, which means Black Lady mountain, has served as a shrine for various religious sects. There are several cave-temples on the mountain. As well as cultural value, the site also has historical value as it was used as a revolutionary base by Viet Minh and Viet Cong forces during the First and Second Indochina Wars (Storey and Robinson 1995). Each year Nui Ba Den Cultural and Historical Site receives a large number of domestic tourists, especially during religious festivals.

## Related projects

No information.

## Literature sources

Pham Van Hoa, Ngo Dac Chung and Hoang Xuan Quang (2000) The fauna of amphibian and reptile species living in Ba Den mountain (Tay Ninh province)]. Tap Chi Sinh Hoc [Journal of Biology] 22(15) CD: 24-29. In Vietnamese.

Storey, R. and Robinson, D. (1995) Lonely planet travel survival kit: Vietnam. Third edition. Hawthorn: Lonely Planet Publications.

Tay Ninh Provincial FPD (2000) [FPD questionnaire]. Tay Ninh: Tay Ninh Provincial Forest Protection Department. In Vietnamese.