

NONLAPA

Nonlapa will be an 8,459 square meter mixed-use complex on Koh Kret Island, Nonthaburi, Thailand. The project combines studios, housing, and public spaces like walkways and gathering areas to create a "creative village" that supports artistic expression and collaboration while supporting Koh Kret cultural and natural. The project serves as a retreat for artists, craftsmen, and musicians, offering dedicated workspaces, Thai-Mon style housing, and public spaces for exhibitions, performances, and community engagement. The design promotes a walkable atmosphere that reflects the island's ecology and connects with the local community.

Koh Kret is known for Mon-style pottery and architecture, with traditional stilt houses to address seasonal flooding. Formed by the digging of Khlong Lat Kret, a man-made canal created during the Ayutthaya period to improve river navigation, the island's use of boats, bicycles, and motorcycles contributes to its appeal as a relaxing, car-free destination. The island mainly operates on weekends for tourism, with many residents working off-island during the week. Due to flooding from August to November, the river erodes 1-2 cm of land each year. The island's geography includes lush greenery, riverside views, and narrow pathway, well-suited for its agricultural and residential uses.

The site is between a wooden area and a government office, close to tourist spots, and near the river. The project will focus on the artist's career because from the survey people in the island mostly give attention to the art and ceramic since the original, so this project intends to bring up these things to support the community and this career. The project features three different houses and sizes, which are for visitors, practicing artists and the residence for permanent artists. Three different studios which are studios for painters, sculptors and musicians, designed with large workspace, good ventilation and lighting to support the workers. And the sharing space for supporting people interaction both local and visitor, sharing their opinion, showing their work and hanging out with others. Also there is the sharing space that people can be with themselves like a pavilion. Around the area will have a mini studio with a kiln so the users can make a ceramic here as well. The extrude walkway will lead people to all around such as houses, studios, the entrance, and port.

The landscape design includes natural cooling and water collection. Soil excavated to create waterways is reused for land elevation, and vegetated swales manage water conveyance and storage, enhancing sustainability. Local plants and a food forest garden further integrate the complex with the surrounding ecology.

Due to the flooding seasons, the buildings use a hybrid structure with concrete for the basements and timber for the upper levels. Wood is the primary building material, helping the structures blend with Koh Kret's environment. Also when the water comes people can still get into the area by boat, it will become a small island. Then the CYCLE will restart.