



(ABOVE) WITH A TOTAL AREA OF ABOUT 50KM<sup>2</sup>, TA DUNG LAKE ENCOMPASSES OVER 40 ISLANDS AND PENINSULAS. (RIGHT) THE MAIN AND HIGHEST SCORIA OF NAM KAR VOLCANO IS AROUND 60M HIGH AND HAS A SMALL BUT PERFECTLY ROUND CRATER, 20M DEEP. THE VOLCANO IS LESS THAN 10,000 YEARS OLD.



## DAK NONG

### VIET NAM

#### GEOLOGY

In Southern Viet Nam, 200 km north of the capital Ho Chi Minh, the Dak Nong UNESCO Global Geopark is a land of fire and water. Although the region's oldest geological formations date back to the Early-Middle Jurassic (200–163 Ma), it was the intense volcanic activity of the last 16.5 Ma and rain that gave the region its geomorphology and fertile soils which yield coffee, tea, rubber and large deposits of bauxite. At the end of the majestic Truong Son range is the Nam Blang volcano and volcanic cave lava field, an open-air classroom of volcanism featuring ash, cinder, volcanic bombs. Discovered in 2007 this is also Southeast Asia's most important volcanic cave system which is over 10 km long, and features around 50 caves.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

The 1) Wet season from May to October offers the splendour of waterfalls at their peak. 2) *Explorasound* is the first museum entirely dedicated to sound in Viet Nam and features unique musical instruments integrated with modern technology. 3) A section of the *Ho Chi Minh Trail* used by the Viet Cong and the People's Army of Viet Nam during the Viet Nam War runs through the Geopark.

#### ABOUT THE PARK

Area: 4,760 km<sup>2</sup>

When to visit: Sept.–Feb.

Geopark since: 2020