

Even though the village is by the river, it is a bit up the hilly slopes, and water is not easy to access. Also, you probably will not have any telephone network access except for right at the hill top. So any cellphone and Internet addicts should think twice.

The crystal clear Riangkhong flows right past where we stayed. Who would have thought that even such a deep dark night can be so beautiful—a canopy of shimmering stars over a still black night, open land, the sound of a mountain river gently gliding by, the shadowy presence of the nearby hills, and the smell of winter in the wind, with the intermittent calls of nocturnal creatures somewhere far away.

The locals said wild hogs, deer and many birds live in the nearby jungles. The river also has very tasty fish. And it would be an injustice to deprive yourself of a dip in the tempting cool water after the sun is up.

The next morning we again set off on the boat, to finally see the barren boulders that have amazed many. Oh, the beauty! So much greener and so full of wild flowers. The water was so clear that even the plants growing on the riverbed were clearly visible. And the rocky mountain stood by in quite magnificence. The more adventurous can even get off the boat to explore.

We started back for Rangamati, through early morning fog, after spending two wonderful nights in the village. A few small boats were already on the river. We saw the sun rise through the fog on the way, and we experienced the unique beauty of the sun rising over a hilly river. This serene river has a lot stronger current in the rainy season, so autumn and winter are ideal for visiting.

If intimacy with nature in its full regalia of green and tranquillity appeals to you, this place will not disappoint.

By Shahana Huda Translated by Sania Aiman Photo courtesy: Shahana Huda





