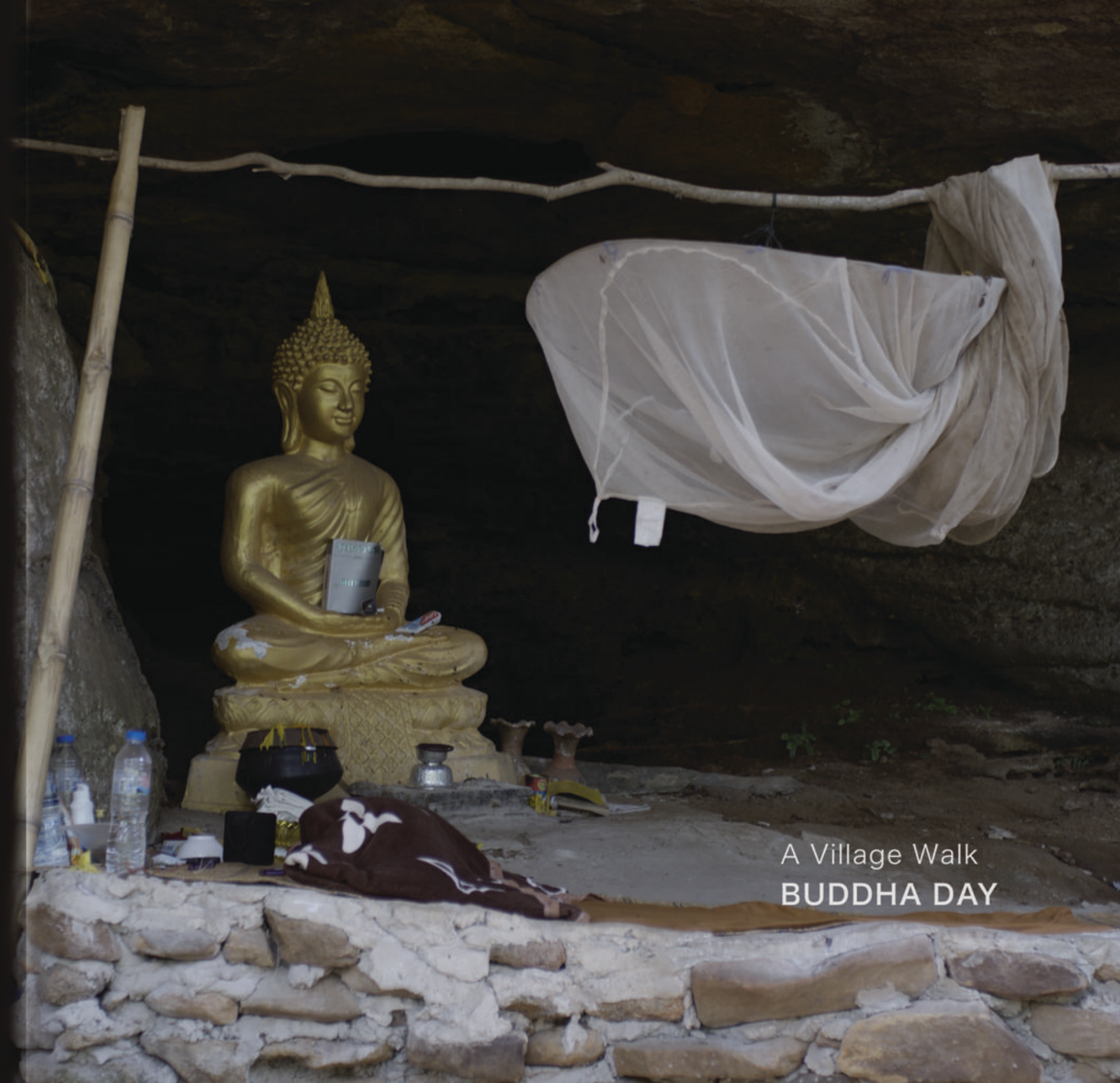
A VILLAGE WALK

BUDDHA DAY

ISBN 978-616-95180-1-3



A Village Walk

BUDDHA DAY



A VILLAGE WALK
BUDDHA DAY

ISBN: 978-616-95180-1-3
© 2026 William Snyder

Published by:
William Snyder
Ban Kan Throm
Thailand

Printed by:
Lightning Source, LLC

oscarslamp.com

A VILLAGE WALK
BUDDHA DAY

Visit any Thai home and you will usually find a calendar hanging somewhere.

On that calendar, one day each week of every month is marked with a small red Buddha stamp.

Following the lunar cycle, these marks coincide with the full moon, the new moon, the first quarter waxing moon, and the third quarter waning moon.

These are Buddhist holy days – the Christian equivalent of Sunday.

Buddha days are when laypeople follow the five precepts more closely: abstaining from harming living beings, fraudulent behavior, sex, lying, and intoxicants. Ordained monks, incidentally, follow 227 precepts.

In our village, many wake early to cook for the monks and bring food to the forest temple deep in the jungle. There is a brief service of prayers and chanting. Afterward, we join together for a meal.

The monks are served first. Each dish is placed on small wooden wheeled trays and slid to them as they fill their bowls. The trays then move to the nuns. Once the last nun has prepared her plate, the dishes are transferred, one by one, to a larger table. Before we prepare our plates, there is another short prayer and chanting.

Then, it's kin khaw (phonetically "keen Kow"), or eat rice.

Once the meal is finished, one or more monks will sit and invite discussion.








วัดป่าเจ้าแวะอุดมธรรม (ธ.)













These few images show where the monks currently reside.

The trail is precarious at times. It follows along a steep rock wall on one side and deep jungle on the other.

You can't see it, but this dwelling space is inches from an active nest of ground bees, their low hum constant.

I stood there for a long time, speechless.






แม่น้ำศักดิ์สิทธิ์
พระนางมหาสีวิลยมเด็ด
เป็นต้นกำเนิดกำเนิดชีวิต




จิตวิญญาณ (Spirit)

























The sacred Thone Takhian tree, the heart around which much of this temple's spiritual gravity revolves.

The Takhian tree isn't just a tree here. It's home to a powerful female spirit woven deep into this region's tradition. People call her Mae Takhian.

Some say she was once a woman whose life ended violently; others believe she's a kind of nature deity who chose the ancient Hopea trees as her dwelling.

Her presence here is treated with reverence.





Thank you to Wat Pa Jao Veh for accepting me as one of your own and allowing me to make these images.

And thank you, dear reader, for sharing this special walk with me. I hope you enjoyed it.

All images were made with vintage lenses from the 1960s retrofitted to a modern professional camera, creating an intentional, unique, and authentic aesthetic.

A VILLAGE WALK

BUDDHA DAY

oscarslamp.com