

The Discovery of Son Doong Cave

Son Doong cave was formed between 2 and 5 million years ago but was not discovered until 1990, when a Quang Binh resident, Mr. Ho Khanh, stumbled across it. In 2009, Howard Limbert of the British Caving Research Association went, along with Ho Khanh, to the cave entrance, from which they explored the entire Son Doong cave.

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The length of the main branch of Son Doong cave is 4.45km. The longest distance from the floor to the ceiling of the cave is 203m, and from the highest point of the entrance down to the cave floor is 304m. At its widest, the cave is 147m, and its volume is 12.5 million cubic meters. To convey the breath-taking size of Son Doong, photos have to use humans as references. With a human seeming as small as an ant when placed beside a stalactite–stalagmite matrix beneath the giant cave’s dome, one cannot help but marvel at the power and ability to create of mother nature.

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Where is Son Doong cave?

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What is the maximum width of the cave?

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Does a stalagmite point up or down?