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Angkor Wat is the world’s largest temple complex, consisting of sandstone temples, chapels, causeways, terraces and reservoirs.

Vast and awe-inspiring, it is a magnificent Hindu temple set in dense jungle, located 152 kilometres from the Thai border, at Siem Reap. The walls are covered in thousands of carvings of gods and events from classical Hindu mythology. It was abandoned in the 15th century when the people turned to Buddhism and rediscovered in 1861.

Elephant, Dangrek and Cardamom mountains are in the southwest of Cambodia along the northern border with Thailand and the Eastern Highlands and in the northeastern corner are the three main mountainous regions. The majority of the population speaks Khmer, a non-tonal language closely related to Thai. French is the second language and English is taught in schools. Cambodia nationalities comprise of Chinese, Vietnamese and Cham Muslims. A form of Buddhism called Theravada is practiced by the majority of Cambodians, Animism and Caodaism are also practised.

Capital and major centres
Phnom Penh, the capital, has a population of around 1.5 million people and, despite its tumultuous past, its crumbling colonial architecture makes an attractive backdrop to street-side cafés and the redeveloped waterfront precinct.
Peaceful Udong, 40 kilometres north of Phnom Penh, was the capital of Cambodia between 1618 and 1866. The town of Siem Reap is only a few kilometres from the temples of Angkor.

Where to stay
International standard hotels are available in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap, and Sihanoukville is growing in popularity as the only beach resort destination in Cambodia. Facilities are being developed and the general increase in tourism in Cambodia has led to a boom in guesthouse accommodation.

Getting around
You can hire a car with a driver with taxis easily found in the cities. The tuk tuk (three-wheeled motor cycles), cyclos and motos (small motorcycles) can also be flagged down for short trips. Buses also have an effective network and they make travel to sights around Phnom Penh easier than driving. For longer trips, trains are a longer but more comfortable option. There are also boats and the most popular services operate between Phnom Penh and Siem Reap. Fast boats head up the Mekong to Kompong Cham, Kratie and Stung Treng.

Food and entertainment
Khmer cuisine is similar to Thai and there are sidewalk noodle shops, food stalls and markets. It is wise to avoid eating or drinking from street vendors. The influence of the French is manifest in the breads and frogs’ legs sold in the markets, and tea and coffee are widely available. Tap water and ‘muscle wines’ are best avoided. There is a growing number of good restaurants, including Thai, Chinese, Indian, Malay and Western, both in the capital and in towns that attract tourists.

Activities
There are activities such as snorkelling in Sihanoukville and elephant rides in Ratanakiri and Mondulkiri, but you need a guide, as landmines, bandits, and other dangers make hiking, outdoor activities, or venturing off the beaten track, dangerous.

There are many leisure activities in Phnom Penh such as go-karting, jet-skiing, mini golf and ten pin bowling. A network of national parks is being established, complete with visitor facilities; Kirirom, Ream and Bokor on the south coast are the most accessible and extremely interesting.

Nature
The number of national parks is increasing, but illegal logging has long been a problem. Parks include Bokor, on the south coast; Ream, near Sihanoukville; Kirirom, outside Phnom Penh; and Virachay, bordering Laos and Vietnam.

Endangered species which are elsewhere extinct are thought to be hidden in the more remote habitats, including elephants, tigers, leopards, gibbons, bats, rhinos and crocodiles. Butterflies, snakes and birds such as cormorants, cranes and ducks are most common.

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**KNAI BANG CHATT**

This exclusive seaside resort can be discovered in the enchanting coastal town of Kep on the southeast coastline of Cambodia.

Located just 24 kilometres from the charming provincial town of Kampot, and 175 kilometres from Phnom Penh, Knai Bang Chatt provides a perfect oceanfront oasis nestled amid the lush vegetation of the surrounding Kep National Park.

This intimate-style retreat offers 18 air-conditioned rooms including one suite.

Each room with its own distinct character showcases art deco with the perfect mix of modern minimalist and authentic Khmer-style décor.

Relaxation and tranquility are key elements at Knai Bang Chatt. Relax by the resort’s stunning infinity pool or indulge in a rejuvenating treatment or massage just metres from the sea at the spa. For those who prefer to keep active, there is an abundance of activities available including island excursions, tours of Bokor National Park, yoga, tai chi and meditation classes.

The Strand restaurant provides healthy and delicious cuisine from fresh and local products, including the abundant seafood that is caught daily in the surrounding sea. The ideal seaside destination to relax and enjoy the sunset, the Sailing Club Restaurant & Bar offers a variety of beverages and an extensive menu of local seafood and tasty Western favourites.

Knai Bang Chatt offers the perfect blend of privacy, serenity and exclusivity, combined with warm Khmer hospitality, making your stay in Cambodia unforgettable.
NAVUTU DREAMS RESORT & WELLNESS RETREAT

This intimate luxury resort is a tropical dream, offering chic, spacious rooms and villas, along with extensive wellness programs and facilities.

Located on the outskirts of Siem Reap town, Navutu Dreams is just 15 minutes from Siem Reap International Airport, a seven-minute tuk tuk drive from the Old Market and Pub Street and a 20-minute drive from the Angkor Archaeological Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Accommodation is spread across five pavilions and features wood floors and colourful decor, garden or pool view patios, minibars, flat-screen TVs and coffeemakers.

Choose from three room categories including the contemporary and eco-chic Explorer Rooms with their own private garden. Grand Tour Luxury Rooms, which are larger and have a veranda that faces an enticing lap-pool, are a favourite among romantic couples as each room has access to one of the rooftop terraces where they can enjoy private, romantic dinners at sunset.

Grand Suites, the largest, most luxurious accommodation, comprise a bedroom with a king size bed, a separate living room which can be converted to a twin room, an over-sized soaking tub overlooking the private garden and separate showers.

Niam Niam Restaurant offers a variety of cuisine, including local Cambodian, authentic Italian and other contemporary international dishes. The menu also offers plenty of vegetarian options and produce is sourced locally.

Navutu Dreams is a holistic retreat for the mind, body and soul. The destination spa, Honeycomb, offers traditional Asian massages which are complemented with a selection of tropical treatments inspired by the South Pacific. There are three swimming pools to choose from, an 18-metre freshwater lap pool, saltwater lounge pool and lagoon-style pool with a child-friendly plunge pool.

Health and wellness enthusiasts are well catered for with yoga classes available three times daily at the on-site yoga studio and uniquely designed wellness and detox programs to complement your stay. The yoga classes and intensive wellness programs: “Detox for The Body or The Mind”, “De-stress” and “Yoga Mini-Break” are run by a professional wellness team.

Destination-inspired wellness activities are also offered such as Pranayama Meditation at a sacred Angkorian temple, the practice of ‘forest bathing’ which is a calming, guided walk on select paths within the Angkor Archaeological Park and a meditation and scenic tour at Cambodia’s only recorded natural sandstone site, Peung Thanorn.
Every busy thoroughfare in the cities and towns across India has peddlers and pedestrians jostling for standing room as the traffic streams past uninterrupted.

Ancient buildings dazzle the eye at every turn and everywhere there is evidence of the past—conquerors and colonisers from the Greeks and Persians to the Portuguese, French and British: magnificent monuments, memorials, palaces and forts were their legacy. In addition, the Arabs and the Chinese used India as a trading post for spices and silks long before a sea route from Europe was discovered. India is a land of warmth and hospitality, a bright colourful world of saris, festivals and fairs.

Capital and major centres

New Delhi, in the country's north, is the capital and major gateway. It is a contemporary, busy metropolis, which combines both the influence of the British Raj with modern development interspersed with ancient monuments, some of which have even been incorporated into a golf course. Also in the north are Agra, Varanasi, Lucknow, Srinagar and Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Chandigarh, Amritsar and Shimla. In the west are Mumbai (Bombay), Lonavala, Pune, Bhopal, Khajuraho, Gwalior, Ahmedabad, Vadodara and the coastal regions of Goa and Karnataka. The capital of Karnataka is Bangalore, which is in the south along with Hyderabad, Mysore, Chennai (Madras), Tiruvananthapuram (Trivandrum) and Kochi (Cochin). In the east is Kolkata (Calcutta), Bhubaneswar, Gopalpur on Sea, Port Blair in the Andaman Islands and Darjeeling, famous for its superb tasting teas and the World Heritage Toy Train.

The people

India's population is in excess of a billion people and its religions are many and varied. Hindu originated with the early Aryans and is not only a religion but also a philosophy and way of life. Jainism and Buddhism were introduced in the 6th century BC and the Islamic teachings were brought to the country by Arab traders in the 7th century. The Afghans and Moghuls who followed were also Muslim, so the religion flourished. Christianity reached India with the arrival of St Thomas, the Apostle, and Zoroastrianism (whose total world population is no more than 140,000) found its way with followers who left their homeland in Iran following the Islamic conquest around 766 AD. Judaism dates back to 973 BC while Sikhism was introduced by Guru Nanak, its founder, in the 15th century. Hindi is the official language, popular in the north while in the south, Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam is spoken with hundreds of dialects between them. English continues to be widely spoken throughout India and helps bridge the many different dialects.

Nature

India is divided from the rest of Asia by mountains and sea. It is bound by the Great Himalayas in the north, stretches southward and at the Tropic of Cancer, and tapers off into the Indian Ocean, between the Bay of Bengal in the east and the Arabian Sea in the west. One-fifth of the land is covered with forests harbouring a variety of wildlife. Rare species like the Asian lion, the white tiger, the one-horned rhinoceros, and the Kashmir stag are protected animals.

The sights

There is so much to see in India. In Old Delhi the river Yamuna runs along the eastern boundary past the cremation sites of Mahatma Gandhi and Prime Ministers Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira and Rajiv Gandhi. The walls of the old city were built by Shah Jahan and are nearly nine kilometres long. The Ajmeri and Delhi gates are part of this old wall, which encloses the Red Fort. About 160 kilometres south of New Delhi is the town of Mathura, once a great Buddhist centre and the legendary site of Lord Krishna's playful exploits.

Agra is 200 kilometres from the capital and was the seat of the great Moghul emperor Akbar who built a huge fort there, which contained his palace known as the Jahangiri. His grandson, Shah Jahan, built the incomparable Taj Mahal between 1630 and 1652. Worth a visit is Akbar's proposed capital of Fatehpur Sikri, abandoned after only a few years, and the tomb of Akbar at Sikandra.

Varanasi, arguably the world's oldest living city, was once the site of about 100 Hindu temples and 30 Buddhist monasteries. Most did not survive the Muslim occupation, but there is a sacred area called Varamas, which Hindus hope to visit once in their life. Thousands make the pilgrimage every year to bathe in the Ganges, a sacred river, and visit the holy Viswanath Temple (the domes of which are covered in solid gold) dedicated to Shiva, Lord of the Universe.
In the northwest of the country is Rajasthan, with its capital at Jaipur (the Pink City) founded in 1728 by the warrior-astronomer Maharaja Jai Singh.

Amritsar is the centre of the Sikh religion and is northwest of New Delhi near the Pakistan border. Chandigarh is a new town designed by the famous French architect Le Corbusier and is the capital of Punjab. North from here is the hill station of Shimla where the former British Government of India migrated every summer. From here it’s a short trip to the twin valleys of Kulu and Kangra, which rival the Valley of Kashmir in beauty. Green with orchards and dotted with ancient Rajput forts on the summit of immense crags, these valleys are truly spectacular. In the southwest is the state of Karnataka, blessed with many natural features including majestic evergreen forests, rivers, caves, and a 320-kilometre coastline dotted with unspoilt beaches.

Where to stay
India offers accommodation in a variety of categories, including deluxe western-style hotels, heritage and palace hotels, travellers’ lodges, tourist bungalows, hostels and homestays.

The main towns have YWCAs and YMCAs. Fully furnished and staffed houseboats are a popular option in coastal areas. The Kettuvallam houseboats of Kerala, that were once used to ship rice and spices, have been reborn into well maintained, fully staffed luxury tourist houseboats, which cruise along the calm, palm fringed-canals of Kerala’s backwaters.

Getting around
City and country tours are offered in India, arranged either by national or state government tourism corporations. The city tours are good value. The rail system is a great way to see the country, and is fairly easy to navigate. Mumbai has the best suburban rail system in India, and Kolkata has a surprisingly efficient, clean underground rail line. Taxis are easy to come by in the main cities, as are buses, which operate on many suburban routes and are very crowded. Scooter taxis or three-wheelers are convenient, fast and cheap for getting round the cities. They have meters and the drivers speak some English. Chauffeur driven cars carry up to four passengers and their rates depend on petrol prices. There are also rickshaws, particularly in Kolkata and Tongas and Victoria carriages (horse-drawn vehicles) in several cities. Pedal trishaws still operate, mostly in the smaller towns.

Food and entertainment
Indians are masters at spicing foods and the technique is found in the preparation (grinding and rolling) of the ingredients. Not every dish is a curry, a good deal of food, particularly in the north, is not hot, just richly garnished to provide exciting flavours. Mumbai is famous for its seafood, while Goa has Indo-Portuguese dishes and Chinese food. Tibetan restaurants are plentiful in the hill towns and are very inexpensive. If hot food disagrees with you stick to tandoori-style dishes, which don’t have hot spices, or chicken cooked Muslim-style after being lightly spiced and added to a casserole with dried fruits.

Shopping
Shopping is an experience in itself in India. Be prepared to bargain for the best price in the many bazaars and emporiums (as a general rule, you can expect to pay almost half the initial
asking price if you’re prepared for some serious haggling).

There are many wonderful handicrafts from Kashmir’s handloomed rugs, furs, papier-mâché utensils and pashmina shawls, jewels and brassware from Jaipur, and silks from Varanasi and Bangalore. For souvenirs, Delhi’s famed bazaars won’t disappoint, and are teeming with eclectic homewares, clothing, pashmina scarves, and more.

Chandni Chowk Bazaar, located in the heart of old Delhi is comprised of a series of interconnecting crowded walkways littered with stalls hawking everything from books, clothes and shoes to electronics, amidst the pervading smell of Indian food—the best bazaar to experience the ‘real’ India. For those who wish to return home loaded with quality yet well priced souvenirs, Janpath is a must-visit. Just a short walk away from Connaught Place, Janpath Bazaar has stand alone street stalls, permanent shops and a flea market, selling quality homeware items such as bright and ornate throws, wall hangings, lamps, rugs, embroidered cushion covers, vases, and much more, as well quality clothing and a plethora of trinkets. Also at the Central Cottage Industries Emporium on Janpath Rd and nearby, along Baba Kharak Singh Marg in New Delhi, are various state emporia each run by their state governments.

**Activities**

Indians all play hockey, cricket, polo, football, volleyball and basketball, and in the hill stations ponies can be hired for excursions to the glaciers’ edge. Ski resorts at Gulmarg in Kashmir and Auli in the state of Uttaranchal are popular for snow skiing and heli skiing, and also some of the Himalayan snowfields to the northeast and near Shimla. The season runs from December to January.

There’s whitewater canoeing on the Ganges’ tributaries and on the Zanskar, Indus, Chenab and Lidder rivers in Kashmir. Ballooning has become popular with a club at Safdarjung Airport in New Delhi. Other activities include camel safaris, trekking and hang gliding in the Himalayas, or exploring woodlands and orchards of the Western Ghats or Aravali hills.

**Currency**

The Indian rupee is divided into 100 paise. Tipping is appreciated, as wages are low by Western standards.

**Climate**

There are three major seasons: winter, summer and the monsoon. The winter, from November to March, is pleasant with bright sunny days in the south and east, but in December and January in the north, the temperature drops and there is snow in the hills. In summer, April to June, it is very hot and humid, and many head to the cool hill resorts. The southwest monsoon breaks about early June and continues until September. The south-eastern areas receive rainfall between October and December. Wear cool, light, cotton clothes in the south and northern plains from April to September. Warmer clothes are advisable for the north during winter. In New Delhi an overcoat may be required during December and January.

It is advisable that females dress modestly where possible, even in warmer climes, as showing too much skin is generally frowned upon and may attract unwanted attention. However tourist beachside areas are generally more lax.
Spread across 60 acres of land, The Ayurvedic Healing Village is surrounded by lush, serene foliage, the perfect tranquil haven for undergoing treatments for a whole host of ailments.

Untouched natural beauty
The Kairali Ayurvedic Group’s signature resort is just a few kilometres from the world’s biggest mountain pass between Kerala and Tamil Nadu in Palakkad at the foot of the Western Ghats, a dreamy land of misty mountains with evergreen tropical forests, dams, wildlife sanctuaries, rivers, rare birds, historical monuments and temples. Palakkad is fast becoming a favourite, and is likely to become known as one of the best tourist destinations in India. The district is gifted with the beauty of the untouched Nelliampathy Hills, the Silent Valley National Park, the famous Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary, the Attrappady Hills and many spectacular dams, such as Malampuzha, Mangalam, Kanjirapuzha, Siruvani and Parambikulam. This tranquil location combines the comfort of a luxury holiday with a focus on total health.

The village’s 30 exclusive villas conform to Vatsu Shastra (the Indian version of Feng Shui), each with a distinctive design that blends seamlessly with the surrounding vegetation. The herbs and trees that have immense curative and restorative powers give the villas a ‘back to nature’ feel.

Villas are available in Deluxe, Classic, Royal and Maharaja categories, each equipped with air-conditioning, telephone, bath and shower. Accommodation is also allocated on the basis of guests’ birth stars. The herbs and trees surrounding each villa are strategically planted according to different constellations, so even the fragrant herb-laden breeze is curative.

The resort also offers an invigorating pollution-free environment where delicious vegetarian food and abstinence from alcohol and smoking is most vigorously encouraged.

Restore vigour and vitality
Guests can enjoy the healing touch of a range of Ayurvedic health and fitness programs, including courses for weight loss, arthritis and spondylitis, sinusitis and migraine, post pregnancy health, rejuvenation therapy to restore vigour and vitality and remove stress and strain as well as beauty and eye care.

Guests are also invited to get a glimpse of their future by visiting the resident astrologer and palmist. Any amount of time spent at this jungle paradise allows guests to experience the authentic healing practices of ancient India, while relaxing in the lap of modern holistic luxury.
Discover Life Lived Grandly at Grand Hyatt Goa.

A truly enchanting destination resort and spa, Grand Hyatt Goa, is set along the calm waters of Bambolim Bay; conveniently located between North and South Goa amidst tropical gardens and lush green lawns that roll down to the water’s edge.

Grand Elegance
Unwind and relax in splendidly appointed rooms and suites blending spectacular water views with the grand elegance of Indo-Portuguese architecture, and the warm hospitality of a traditional Goan residence.

The resort has 313 contemporary styled guestrooms, each boasts one king bed with feather pillows and a private balcony overlooking landscaped gardens, the pool or bay. A tub and separate walk-in rain shower can be found in the spacious marble bathroom, while modern amenities include a 37-inch LCD TV with satellite channels, as well as wired and wireless internet.

Spoiled for choice
Grand Hyatt Goa offers unforgettable recreational experiences with over 101 activities to choose from. You can cook with the chefs, learn to make Indian inspired cocktails, rejuvenate and detox at Shamana Spa or hit the adventure zone for an adrenaline rush, savour modern Australian cuisine at The Verandah or indulge in fondue at Capiz Bar.

With a selection of seven restaurants and bars, an extensive spa, a versatile recreational menu and a sailing centre, the resort has a plan for you every day. The recreation team has a collection of non-stop activities for both kids and adults. You can begin your day with yoga accompanied by live music, followed by fun activities like wall climbing, aqua zorbing, soccer, archery, scuba diving, zip-line, flying fox, wild web rope course and much more. There are plenty of family friendly activities and children will never get bored when staying at Grand Hyatt Goa.

Temple of wellness
The Shamana Spa at the resort is a temple of wellness that offers a peaceful and serene retreat. With a combination of modern and ancient Indian techniques, the essence of Shamana Spa is to create the perfect balance between wellbeing and lifestyle for a youthful you. The Spa houses a fitness centre, beauty salon, indoor and outdoor pools, whirlpools and sauna and steam rooms.

Whether you’re travelling for business or pleasure, this magnificent destination resort ticks all the boxes for a truly unforgettable stay in India.
The size of Indonesia is overwhelming and offers visitors a very individual experience. Whether you are shopping, visiting temples, enjoying the beaches and resorts in Bali, or venturing further to discover remote villages or the jungles of Borneo and Papua, visitors are sure to be amazed by Indonesia’s diversity.

Capital and major centres
As the nation’s centre of government, business and industry, the capital Jakarta is a modern society that reflects recent decades of remarkable economic growth. The megacity has a population of 10 million and is surrounded by the metropolitan area, Jabotabek, with a population of around 28 million.

The island of Bali, a tropical paradise and tourism hot spot, lies off the eastern tip of Java. A rich culture, beautiful landscapes, coastline and rural villages keep visitors returning in droves. The islands of Lombok, Sumba, Flores and others form a chain all the way to the easternmost province, Papua.

Sumatra, the world’s sixth largest island, is located to the west of Jakarta. The equator divides it in two just north of Bukittinggi. The scenery in Sumatra is amazing, offering incredible mountains, rivers and almost 100 volcanoes, 15 of which are active.

Kalimantan, the southern two-thirds of the island of Borneo, was once, and still is for the most part, a vast, jungle-covered wilderness. Boats and ferries are the main modes of transport, and the native Dayak tribe is a main attraction. The highland region of Sulawesi offers national parks, and a festive culture that includes the famed funeral festivals of Tana Toraja on the southwestern peninsula. Further east still, in the islands of Maluku previously known as the Moluccas, lie the fabled Spice Islands. Many of these areas are just a two-hour flight from Jakarta, and an extensive and convenient network of air services connects the major cities and towns.

The people
The fourth most populous nation in the world, Indonesia’s estimated 257 million people speak more than 500 different languages and dialects, and range from city dwellers to sea gypsies. Sixty percent of the people inhabit a mere seven percent of Indonesia’s land area on the island of Java, while most of the archipelago remains unexplored.

Nature
Indonesia has one of the world’s richest natural environments, offering an incredible diversity of animal and plant life. While a number of species of fauna are familiar to both Asia and Australia, there are many indigenous species in Indonesia such as the orangutan apes of Sumatra and Kalimantan, the giant Komodo dragons, the only ones of their kind in the world still roaming free, the one-horned rhinoceros of Java, the wild banteng oxen, tigers, and many other species now protected in wildlife reserves.
East of Komodo is the island of flowers, Flores, where Komodo dragons can be found along the west coast, the only other place apart from Komodo. Also on Flores is Kelimutu with three coloured lakes in the caldera of the volcano. These lakes change colour depending on the oxidation state of the water and go from bright red through to green and blue.

Papua, once part of the Australian landmass, has kangaroos, marsupial mice, bandicoots, ring-tailed possums, crocodiles and frilled neck lizards. Indonesia has 400 volcanoes and a spectrum of landscapes from lush green mountain slopes to warm sandy beaches; from rice fields to rainforests and mountains topped year-round with snow.

The sights
The most visited islands tend to be Sumatra, Java and Bali, and there is a great diversity of landscapes and cultures in these regions alone. There are also many temples from the Buddhist and Hindu dynasties such as those in Borobudur, Prambanan and the Dieng Plateau, the palaces of the sultans in Surakarta and Yogyakarta, the Maimoon Palace of the Sultanate of Deli in Medan, and the Hall of Justice in Bali. There are remote villages, the ruins of ancient fortresses and museums, mosques and churches.

Where to stay
Accommodation in Indonesia ranges from deluxe hotels and resorts through to simple economy hotels, ‘wisma’ (guesthouses) and ‘losmen’ (rooms to let). Deluxe hotels complete with convention facilities can be found in places such as Medan, Yogyakarta, Surabaya, Bandung, Jakarta, Bali and Makassar, while Jakarta offers a good mix of elegant five-star hotels and quality three- and four-star establishments.

In Bali, accommodation is available in all price categories, in the mountains or along the beach. In Bandung in West Java two old hotels have been restored to their original art deco style. Most hotels in major towns have air-conditioned rooms, but budget hotels are very basic.

Getting around
Indonesia has a huge variety of local transport, with public minibuses found in cities and villages. Many towns have bemos, three-wheeled pick-ups with two rows of seats down the side, while the bajaj is found only in Jakarta. Becaks, or bicycle rickshaws, operate mainly in the suburbs of Jakarta and Surabaya, and are increasingly being banned from the central areas of major cities.

In Bali, Yogyakarta and many other centres you can hire self-drive cars, bicycles or motorbikes. Taxis are available in Jakarta, Surabaya, Bandung, Solo, Semarang, Medan and Bali. Fares are generally low, and most taxis use their meters. If you choose not to use the meter make sure to agree on a price with the driver before you set out for the destination.

Food and entertainment
As with the cuisine throughout Asia, Indonesian food is largely based on rice. Nasi goreng, fried rice with an egg on top, is one of the most popular dishes. Seafood, including fish, lobster, oysters, prawns, squid and crab feature prominently in the Indonesian diet and the cuisine is bold, rich in flavour and heavily spiced. Coconut is also very common and is produced for its cooking oil as well as its milk and white flesh that are used as ingredients in many dishes. A rumah makan, ‘house to eat’, is generally the cheaper equivalent of a restaurant.

Markets are a good food source, especially night markets. Jakarta and Bali have a wide range of excellent restaurants offering all types of cuisine from ethnic Indonesian to Chinese, Japanese, and also Western and European fare. There’s entertainment in Bali almost every day with exhibitions of Balinese dancing either in villages or at hotels.
Entry requirements
All visitors need a valid passport/travel document with minimum validity of six months beyond the period of intended stay. Free visa entry on arrival for 30 days is now available for Australians.

Activities
Beach resorts offer sailing, surfing, scuba diving and windsurfing. Many areas are legendary for good diving, snorkelling and surfing. Of the 60-plus golf courses in Indonesia, Bali offers three of international standard, including the Greg Norman-designed Bali Nirwana Golf Course.

The more adventurous climber can tackle Mt Bromo in Java or Mt Agung in Bali for a day climb, or try more strenuous climbs such as Gunung Rinjani, the volcano that dominates Lombok. Traditional spectator sports include bull races, bull fights, rowing and unique ram fights, all held during festivals.

Silat, a martial art, is regularly performed as a dance or an exercise and is similar to karate. Camp Leaky, in the jungles of Tanjung Puting National Park in Kalimantan, is the site of Dr Birute Galdikas’ study of wild orangutans and is the longest continual study by one principal investigator of any wild animal, enabling visitors to witness the rehabilitation of these amazing primates.

On the island of Sulawesi is the impressive Lore Lindu National Park, home to over 200 species of bird, the cuscus, tarsiers, anoa (a rare dwarf buffalo) and babirusa (an animal resembling both a pig and a hippopotamus). The park has been largely untouched by tourism and offers many different treks. Within the park are ancient stone megaliths, waterfalls, hot springs and the large lake of Danau Lindu. Seawalking is a new and popular activity that allows anyone to walk at a depth of three metres along the ocean floor without carrying heavy oxygen tanks. The Sea Walker helmets permit close observation of the myriad fish and sea life Indonesia offers.

Shopping
While Indonesian cities have air-conditioned shopping centres, supermarkets and department stores with fixed prices, bargaining is customary in smaller shops and particularly in the markets. The wax-and-dye art of batik is one of the country’s best-known crafts, and silverwork, wayang puppets and leatherwork are all found in Java. Woodcarvings, leather goods, paintings, clothing, bone work, bronze castings and stone statues are all available in Bali.

Beautiful furniture and homewares are for sale or made to order in Kuta, and from a number of warehouses between Seminyak and Ubud. Sumba blankets, the song-kets of Sumatra, the silks of South Sulawesi and the jumpuntan (tie-dyed) items of Palembang can all be found in Jakarta.

Climate
It is hot throughout the year with daily temperatures from 26°C to 33°C with the wet season from October to April. Wear informal, light cotton clothing. In the highlands a sweater may be required. Discreet clothing should be worn at festivals, ceremonies and villages. A sarong or sash may be required for temple visits.

Currency
The rupiah is the currency unit of Indonesia. Most major foreign currencies can be easily changed in city banks, bureaux de change and large hotels. Credit cards are accepted in major hotels and restaurants.
Bali is a tropical paradise with an abundance of fresh fruit always available. Bali boasts lush green forests, beautiful beaches and incredible rice paddies that spill down the sides of dramatic mountains.

It has a strong Hindu spiritual life, with thousands of temples and a rich culture of dancing, music, art, architecture, rituals and festivals.

The capital Denpasar in the south is a lively town, particularly after dark, when locals visit Pasar Badung, the biggest and busiest market on the island.

It is worthwhile hiring a car, jeep or moped, or chartering a private cab to visit the island’s villages. Among those worth a visit are Celuk, which is noted for its silver and goldsmithing, and Mas for its excellent woodcarving. Near the village of Kutri is Pura Kedarman, which has a hilltop shrine with a panoramic view and stone statue of the eight-armed goddess, Durga.

Ubud, at the base of the mountains, is the cultural centre of Bali and home of much traditional Balinese dance and music. This is where most accomplished painters, dancers, musicians, carvers and weavers live and work, so there are a number of excellent museums, art galleries and shops selling quality handicrafts.

Not far from Peliatan is Goa Gajah or the Elephant Cave, carved into a rock face. Visitors enter the cave through the cavernous mouth of a demon. Also near Ubud, Tampaksiring is a small town where the most impressive ancient monument on Bali can be found: Gunung Kawi. The temple consists of 10, seven-metre high, rock-cut memorials.

The spectacular 16th century Tanah Lot is probably one of Bali’s best known and most photographed temples. Perched on a rocky islet and encircled by the sea, droves of visitors go to see it at sunrise or, more commonly, silhouetted against a brilliant red sky at sunset.

On Bali’s western tip, the Bali Barat National Park covers nearly 20,000 hectares and includes 7000 hectares of coral reef and coastal waters. The region is ideal for trekking, has outstanding dive sites and pristine beaches. East Bali has Gunung Agung, and West Bali has the Gunung Batur crater, a magnificent sight at sunrise.

Penelokan, on the edge of the crater, offers superb views of Mt Batur and down to the lake. The village of Batur used to be inside the crater, but after a violent eruption in 1917 when thousands were killed, the village was relocated onto the crater’s rim, with the village of Kintamani. Kedisan, by the lake, is the base from which you can take a boat across to Trunyan. Or walk for a couple of hours on the track around the lake to Toyah Bungkah passing through the old village of Songan. Nearly 1000 metres up the slopes of Gunung Agung is Bali’s most important temple, Besakih.

North of Denpasar is the temple of Taman Ayun in Mengwi, spacious and
memorable for its moat and large grassy outer courtyard; and Bedugul, which has a leisure park at the southern end of Lake Bratan and lovely botanical gardens. It is the south of Bali that is the real tourist mecca: the areas of Kuta, Tuban, Legian and Seminyak. Kuta has an incredible concentration of shops and services, as well as Bali’s most famous beach—the only place in Bali where the surf breaks over sand instead of coral. Kuta and Legian come alive at night, with shops and market stalls selling every Balinese handicraft imaginable. Various cultural performances are staged nightly, with one of Bali’s best Kecak (traditional dance) performances to be seen in Kuta. The increasingly busy area of Tuban is situated close to the attractions of Kuta and Legian but with a more tranquil beach. Safer swimming combined with Bali’s only watersports park, Waterbom Bali, makes it an appealing option for family holidays.

Southern Bali, encompassing Nusa Dua, Sanur and Tanjung Benoa, is where most of the island’s international five-star hotels are located. Sanur has a palm-lined beach and its waters are protected by reefs making it ideal for watersports. Reasonably priced restaurants are found in Tanjung Benoa and Bualu village, and the nightlife is relatively sedate. There are other beaches at Lovina in the north, and Candi Dasa in the east. Popular activities on Bali range from surfing, scuba diving and sea walking to indulging at pristine spas or attending an exciting cooking school.

As it continues to attract an increasing number of international visitors every year, dining in Bali is very cosmopolitan yet inexpensive. Bali has amazing fresh seafood and the local lobster, sold at prices that will have you coming back again and again, is not to be missed. A huge range of international cuisines including Chinese, Malaysian, Italian, Greek, Moroccan and Mexican, to name just a few, are available. Be sure to enjoy local delicacies such as nasi goreng and sate campur.

Bali is also recognised as a shopper’s paradise. Whether you are looking for casual or tailored clothing, locally crafted jewellery, handicrafts, antiques and artefacts or leather goods including leather coats, jackets and handbags, you will find it all at amazing prices.

Don’t forget, bartering is the local custom at the markets so have fun and get the best price you can. If you need a quieter pace, try the fixed-price department stores in Denpasar.

Bali offers every standard of accommodation ranging from modest, yet charming bungalow-style hotels nestled in lush tropical gardens through to some of the most exclusive and sophisticated hotels in the world. There is without doubt something to suit every budget.

The abundance of cultural and historical sites here makes for a fascinating holiday.
LIFESTYLE RETREATS

Lifestyle Retreats is a unique and dynamic hotel management company that offers a holistic hospitality concept with a range of luxurious privately owned boutique hotels in Indonesia and Cambodia.

The Balé Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Embark on an exciting journey to the Kingdom of Cambodia. Due to open October 1st, this luxury boutique resort is located in a prime location along the Mekong river in Cambodia. The retreat boasts just 18 stylish suites featuring contemporary design blended with Cambodian flair. A gourmet restaurant and lounge, wide range of spa and wellness programs, gym, library and a lovely swimming pool make The Balé ideal for couples, families and even perfect for small corporate retreats and events.

The Balé Nusa Dua, Bali
Relax and revitalise in style at The Balé, Nusa Dua. This rare gem is a serene, luxurious retreat with 29 immaculately designed pavilions, each with a sleek, modern interior and refreshingly simple garden, blissful daybeds and private swimming pool. The ‘no children’ policy allows couples to spend every moment reconnecting with each other. Influenced by the healing rituals of the Balinese culture, the spa provides a range of massages, and wellness treatments. Located at The Spa, Bliss Restaurant specialises in light, nutritious spa cuisine that complements the treatments.

The Amala
The perfect wellness retreat, The Amala is located in the heart of Seminyak. Here guests can enjoy intimate and luxurious calm within the walls of the resort and the vibrancy of shopping, cafes, nightlife and beaches a short walk away. Rooms and villas offer around-the-clock butler service and some boast private pools. The gentle pace of life within the resort will help you relax and focus on the wellness treatments.

The Menjangan
On the stunning north west coast of Bali, The Menjangan is a peaceful retreat spread across 382 hectares within the Bali Barat National Park, offering guests the chance to get close to nature. The Monsoon Lodge is a haven of tranquility, built in harmony with the environment and set around an idyllic swimming and hot pool. The 14 large deluxe rooms and two suites are beautifully designed with Bengkirai wood floors, and traditional alang-alang grass roofing are fully air-conditioned and have en suite bathrooms. Beachfront Villas are fully air-conditioned and designed in the traditional Joglo Javanese architecture style with modern, sleek interiors and large windows offering stunning views. The Mangrove Spa provides a range of traditional massages using natural products. Explore the jungle on foot or jump on a bike, a guided nature tour is a rewarding experience, or experience the
beauty of the national park on horseback. The coastal area just off-shore offers amazing snorkelling opportunities and is renowned as one of Indonesia’s premier diving spots.

IZE Seminyak
A hip, urban hotel, IZE Seminyak offers a contemporary resort experience. Every element of the hotel has been meticulously designed with the savvy, young global traveller in mind to deliver connectivity, comfort, efficiency, cutting-edge style, good food, fun and a touch of glamour. Relax in delightful Deluxe Rooms, designed for comfort and simplicity. The seven Deluxe Pool Rooms are all on the ground floor and each has direct private access to the IZE swimming pool. IZE Club Rooms and Suites are all located on the seventh floor and offer their guests IZE Club Privileges. Club Rooms feature high ceilings, an iPod dock and panoramic Seminyak views from the balconies and direct access to the rooftop pool.

The Samata
A place where guests can improve their lifestyle balance by engaging in fitness, sports, healthy dining and complete relaxation, the Samata, Sanur is a unique luxury retreat in one of the most beautiful parts of Bali. There are 10 exquisite suites and pool villas gazing out over emerald rice fields and the shimmering Indian Ocean. Minimalist design is complemented by earthy tones, and Javanese teak furniture. The resort’s turquoise pools stretch invitingly across the lawns, leading the eye to gaze into the distance across the verdant rice fields. It’s the perfect backdrop for yoga, meditation and relaxation, either before or after workouts. The dining areas are open-air and open-plan, allowing guests to engage with the environment and benefit from the sights and sounds of nature.

The Santai
This exclusive retreat is nestled in a quiet neighbourhood close to picturesque rice fields and local village temples but just a short 15-minute drive from the shops, restaurants and buzzing nightlife of Seminyak. The Santai offers a truly peaceful and individual Balinese experience with a small number of pool villas ensuring highly personalised service from the warm and welcoming staff family. Gong serves a mouth-watering selection of signature dishes from South East Asia and other parts of the world with a daily choice of specials, all using locally sourced ingredients.
Whether you want complete luxury, peace and quiet, adventure or delightful local cuisine and culture, you’ll find it in Nusa Dua & Tanjung Benoa.

Nusa Dua is located on the southern peninsula of Bali, just 20 minutes from the airport and the organised chaos of Kuta. The area is known for its generally fine weather (it is drier and cooler than the rest of Bali) and its protected white beaches. Coconut trees stud the coastal strip and it is a requisite that resorts built in Nusa Dua are to be no higher than the coconut trees, ensuring minimal impact on the region.

The entrance to the resort area is flanked by traditional Balinese split gates leading to the expansive lawns and sweeping driveways of grand hotels.

In the quiet enclave there are no hawkers, warungs, traffic nor pollution. Though it’s relatively isolated from Balinese community life, many hotels arrange visits by Balinese dancers and gamelan performances, and all of the major tourist attractions are a short drive away.

The beaches at Nusa Dua have popular surf breaks way out on the reef and the best time to enjoy them is the wet season. At low tide the beach is shallow and difficult for swimming but at high tide it transforms into a picturesque lagoon.

Camel Safaris run one hour camel rides along the beach. Many watersport activities such as diving, waterskiing, windsurfing and parasailing are based in Tanjung Benoa just to the north of Nusa Dua.

A shopping complex in the centre of the resort specialises in textiles and handicrafts, has a range of kiosks and a games area for kids as well as a restaurant. It also stages regular Kecak and Legong dances and drum parades.

Nightlife in Nusa Dua is limited to bars and lounges in the hotels, but it’s a short taxi trip to the lively areas of Kuta, Legian and Seminyak. Tanjung Benoa is a peninsula that extends for four kilometres north of Nusa Dua.

A Chinese population has resided here for centuries and has established a Chinese temple. There is also a Hindu temple and a mosque within 100 metres.

Shops are generally cheaper than those in Nusa Dua and offer a shopping experience similar to Kuta. Tanjung Benoa has an extensive range of local restaurants, including the famous Bumbu Bali Cooking School.

Diving, cruises and fishing trips at Tanjung Benoa can be arranged with most travel agents in South Bali while snorkelling, banana boat rides and glass bottom boat trips are offered along the main beach at reasonable prices. The area is also dotted with spectacular sea temples.

Whether you want complete luxury, peace and quiet, adventure or delightful local cuisine and culture, you’ll find it in Nusa Dua and Tanjung Benoa.
GRAND WHIZ HOTEL NUSA DUA

This chic, modern hotel offers quality service and modern accommodation and facilities for business and leisure travellers alike.

The Grand Whiz Hotel Nusa Dua is aesthetically built with a modern design and offers guests affordable comfort in the heart of Nusa Dua.

Warm-hearted hospitality
The hotel’s dedicated team extends sincere and warm-hearted Balinese hospitality to ensure a relaxing and comfortable stay.

The Grand Whiz Hotel Nusa Dua features a selection of 130 rooms with comfortable, modern interiors and amenities for a home-away-from-home feel. A range of room categories include Standard, Superior, Deluxe and Premiere Pool Access.

There are also spacious Junior Suites, and for those seeking a little extra luxury and privacy, the Four Bedroom Private Pool Villa is the perfect choice for groups and families.

All rooms are equipped with air-conditioning, a work desk, safety deposit box, top quality mattress and linen to ensure a good nights rest, a high pressure rain shower, television with multiple channels, complimentary Wi-Fi and mineral water.

A complimentary breakfast buffet is offered to guests at the Anjani Restaurant which is also open for lunch and dinner for Indonesian and international favourites.

There are also spacious Junior Suites, and for those seeking a little extra luxury and privacy, the Four Bedroom Private Pool Villa is the perfect choice for groups and families.

All rooms are equipped with air-conditioning, a work desk, safety deposit box, top quality mattress and linen to ensure a good nights rest, a high pressure rain shower, television with multiple channels, complimentary Wi-Fi and mineral water.

A complimentary breakfast buffet is offered to guests at the Anjani Restaurant which is also open for lunch and dinner for Indonesian and international favourites.

The hotel also has a swimming pool with an adjacent bar serving refreshing cocktails and beverages.

Other facilities include a business centre, a ballroom and four meeting rooms. The spa offers pampering treatments and massages and bike rentals are available for guests wishing to explore the surrounding area.

Perfectly located
The strategic location provides convenient access to various modes of transportation, as well as to major markets, food and beverage outlets and lifestyle and entertainment centres.

Located in the exclusive business hub of Nusa Dua Resort, in the ITDC area - Indonesia Tourism Development Corporation area, a well know area for international events, the hotel is a 20-minute drive from Ngurah Rai International Airport, five minutes from Bali International Convention Center and only 300 metres away from Nusa Dua beach, where you can enjoy a variety of watersports.

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GRAND HYATT BALI

Like the fabled Balinese water palaces of old, Grand Hyatt Bali is a cluster of four ethnic villages set amidst an interlinking system of cascading waterfalls, landscaped gardens and lagoons that meander through 41 acres of lush tropical gardens in Nusa Dua.

Unique Balinese ambience
This Bali resort offers all the comfort and luxury services of a world-class hotel blended with the relaxing tranquility of a secluded beach resort. There are 636 charming guestrooms each appointed in a variety of rich woods and fabrics. The décor adopts an organic theme using natural teakwood and marble from Central Java while the fabrics used in the design were specially commissioned by local artisans to reflect the rich culture of Bali in a modern style. Artworks of rice terraces at sunset and special mood lighting enhance the warm natural tones of the guestrooms. To enhance the airy feeling of the sun-filled rooms, a colour palette of cream, pastel olive green, honey, amber and taupe with accents of orange has been incorporated.

The contemporary Balinese-inspired rooms have their own private balcony with ocean, lagoon or garden views. A unique feature is an alcove area with a daybed for lounging that can be converted into a sleeping bay for children. With the latest technology, all rooms have individually controlled air-conditioning, complimentary Wi-Fi, separate shower booth and bath, cable TV, international direct dial telephone and safe.

The Grand Club assures an extra level of amenities and personalised service with a private swimming pool, concierge and butler service. Here the rooms are the size of suites, some are split level, with spacious bathrooms and balconies that open out to tranquil water gardens and the sea. Privileges include private concierge, lounge, breakfast, refreshments and cocktails.

For guests wishing to live like Balinese royalty, there is the Grand Executive Suite, Grand Suite, Ambassador Suite, Beachfront Suite, Presidential Suite or Deluxe Villa.

Savour delicious Italian specialties in the trendy beachfront restaurant, Salsa Verde, and discover Watercourt restaurant, an open-air sanctuary enhanced with Balinese décor and ideal for private dinner functions. Situated on the rooftop of Salsa Verde, the Salsa Bar is an oasis for discerning guests to unwind with signature cocktails while enjoying balmy beach breezes in an impressive location that boasts beautiful views of the Nusa Dua coastline.

Garden Café offers the combination of a setting that exudes the look and feel of a resplendent restaurant and a menu with a wide choice of the best in Asian and European cuisine. Located near the main
lobby is Nampu, a Japanese restaurant with a rustic, country ambience, featuring a teppanyaki section.

**Contemporary Balinese village**

Pasar Senggol, built on different levels with natural stone walkways, has been designed as a contemporary Balinese village and is situated in the heart of the resort. It features a traditional temple, shopping arcade, daily cultural show and a variety of food stalls.

Kriya Spa adds immeasurably to the resort’s extensive relaxation and activity facilities. It is a wellness sanctuary nestled within the lush tropical gardens offering an authentic Balinese healing experience with 24 luxurious spa villas and full-day spa programs.

A wide range of activities is available for active vacationers. The Bay Club Fitness and Health Centre features a state-of-the-art gymnasium, aerobics studio, glass-back squash courts, steam and dry sauna, whirlpool, plunge pools and a massage room. There is a choice of five swimming pools as well as three floodlit tennis courts, a jogging trail and a putting and chipping green. Included in the diversions offered is a variety of watersports such as windsurfing, outrigger sailing, scuba diving, snorkelling and canoeing.

The newly renovated Kids Club is an exciting place for kids to play and learn. Situated just a step away from the beach, children vacationing at the resort will enjoy a variety of activities including art and craft, kids yoga, traditional Balinese games and fun cooking.

Grand Hyatt Bali offers an ideal blend of business and pleasure for corporate meeting groups. The layout of the rooms and facilities allows decentralised group check-ins and exclusivity. The meeting venues consist of the Grand Ballroom with its theatre-style seating that can accommodate up to 1420 guests and the Karangasem Ballroom which can accommodate 750 guests with theatre-style seating. With a total of 24 meeting rooms of various sizes, Grand Hyatt Bali is the ideal destination for meetings, conferences, gala and incentive programs.

The Grand Hyatt Bali offers an impeccable experience. Whether it’s for fun, relaxation or business, guests are guaranteed to enjoy their stay at this stunning complex.
AYODYA RESORT BALI

Ayodya Resort Bali rests upon 11.5 hectares of landscaped gardens complete with a beautiful lagoon pool and set within the secure gated resort community of Nusa Dua.

A world of grandeur
Reminiscent of an enchanted water palace and characterised by quintessential Balinese architecture, the resort is designed to resemble a Balinese water palace in the grandest possible manner. Depicting mythical characters from the epic Ramayana story and a true reflection of Balinese art, stone statues, fountains and relief carvings are dotted throughout the hotel and around the lagoon pool.

Ayodya Resort Bali has 537 elegant rooms and suites each with a comfortable king size bed, marble bathroom with walk-in shower and soaking tub, as well as private balconies for enjoying garden, pool or ocean views. The Ayodya Palace is a private retreat within the resort and features 81 lavish suites. Set near the beach within a tranquil corner of the resort, the Ayodya Palace represents the ultimate luxury experience with an exclusive butler service and private check-in. Exclusively designed for Ayodya Palace, the lounge and serene pool with beach access provides a relaxing ambience.

The Ayodya Spa by Mandara is exciting, eclectic and earthly, honouring the environment and reflecting the traditional while also retaining the very best elements of Balinese artistry. The spa's décor is sensual and romantic, featuring hand blown glass, Balinese artwork, stone carvings and water features.

The spa's menu is a combination of Asian-inspired therapies combined with an exclusive range of beauty treatments by French aroma skincare specialist, Decleor. Mandara Spa's signature treatments including Mandara Massage, Pure Natural Facial and Ultimate Indulgence are also available.
Blessed with a 300-metre secluded sandy beach and large swimming pool, the resort features numerous water activities. There is also a fitness centre, jogging trail, tennis and squash courts. For families staying at the resort, the kids club provides children with creative games and local cultural learning programs.

**Meetings and private functions**
Ayodya Resort Bali has the expertise, facilities and hi-tech amenities to co-ordinate conferences, meetings, seminars, receptions, private dinners and functions, in a choice of 14 versatile, multi-function rooms ranging from The Grand Ballroom to smaller, professional meeting rooms. Additionally, the hotel’s extensive grounds provide numerous opportunities for outside venues. Just footsteps from a dreamy, white sandy beach is the Beach Garden, where the lush green landscape overlooks the Indian Ocean and is able to accommodate up to 1,500 people for wedding receptions and gala dinners.

The Balinese Theatre offers a traditional Balinese ambience and the perfect setting for both private functions and scheduled entertainment for up to 180 people. The Balinese Theatre is an open-air amphitheatre in which Bali’s rich cultural heritage is brought to life by traditional Balinese dance performances such as the Kecak and Legong dance while a cultural dinner is presented with an international and Indonesian buffet.

Savour world-class cuisine at Ayodya Bali with eight restaurants and lounges serving a variety of specialised international cuisines. Enjoy authentic Japanese cuisine amidst elegant and cosy surrounds at Genji Restaurant, or dine with your partner at the stylish Octopus Restaurant and Sports Bar with its delectable, simple yet rich meals.

The Waterfall Restaurant with lagoon views offers an international buffet breakfast and Indonesian delicacies for dinner, while the Octopus Ristorante serves a casual dinner of irresistible Italian cuisine. Topping off Ayodya Resort Bali’s culinary medley is its iconic Lagoona Restaurant that is open for lunch and dinner, enticing you with beautifully presented seafood and barbecue feasts.

The Ayodya Resort Bali truly has something for everyone. It perfectly blends the hospitality and grace of Bali’s friendly people with a warm welcome, exotic grandeur and ultimate comfort.

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SOL BEACH HOUSE BENOA HOTEL

Located in Bali’s tropical haven of Nusa Dua, this all-inclusive resort welcomes you with comfortable and luxurious accommodation options, first-class facilities, and exciting activities in a breathtaking private beachfront setting.

Located 15 minutes from the airport, just past Nusa Dua’s north gate in Tanjung Benoa, famous for its clean beaches and wide variety of watersports, Sol Beach House Benoa Hotel’s strategic location makes it the perfect choice for all travellers.

Elegance and allure
Accommodation mirrors Bali’s graceful elegance and allure, combining contemporary and minimalist style with traditional Balinese touches.

Impressively appointed accommodation includes 36 guestrooms, 54 premium rooms, 32 suites and five family suites, each designed to convey a sense of space and simplicity to help you make the most of rest and relaxation. Amenities include air-conditioning, LCD TV with satellite channels, direct dial telephone, coffee and tea making facilities, a minibar and safety deposit box.

Value and convenience
The resort’s all-inclusive packages include accommodation and meals, snacks, alcoholic drinks, soft drinks, spa treatments and daily activities including access to non-motorised sports and nightly entertainment. These packages are perfect for those looking for great value and convenience.

Balinese paradise
Extensive watersports and beach activities are available and other recreation facilities include a fitness centre and a spectacular freeform pool. The spa offers a range of revitalising treatments and therapies designed to pamper and rejuvenate.

The Sol Beach House Benoa Hotel is the perfect backdrop for weddings and events. The resort has a dedicated wedding team that will work to accommodate every individual request to ensure everything is perfect for the big day. Business facilities include state-of-the-art audiovisual and telecommunication equipment to cater for all types of events and functions.

The resort’s bars and restaurants cater to all tastes and offer a wide selection of dining experiences including fine authentic Italian, Mediterranean and international cuisines combined with Asian and Indonesian specialties as well as theme buffets in the garden. Menus feature Thai, Chinese, Japanese, Indonesian and traditional Balinese dishes. The swim-up bar provides a fun way to stay refreshed.
The Bukit Peninsula offers stunning ocean views and white sand beaches. The quiet fishing village of Jimbaran lies on a narrow isthmus connecting the Bukit Peninsula to the rest of Bali. Jimbaran is unique in that both the north and south coasts of the island are in immediate proximity. The geography around Jimbaran is distinctly different to the volcanic fertile soils found elsewhere in Bali. The Bukit Peninsula is comprised of a large limestone plateau offering stunning ocean views from its clifftops and white sand beaches. On the west coast is Jimbaran Bay and the Indian Ocean while the east has the Indian Ocean and the sheltered Benoa Harbour. The region has remained sparsely inhabited due to the landscape and was at one stage a place of banishment where undesirables were sent. The Jimbaran area is a far less crowded alternative to Kuta or Legian thanks to careful planning by local authorities. The beauty of the beach has led to a number of luxury hotels being built along the coast. Budget accommodation is limited in Jimbaran, but the region is easily accessible from Nusa Dua or Kuta by taxi, bemo or bike.

The sea temple of Pura Luhur Ulu Watu is the region’s most significant sight. The temple is one of several dedicated to the spirits of the sea along the south coast of Bali. The temple is perched atop a dramatic cliff, offering many unique sights. Located on the western shore of the Bukit Peninsula on Bali’s southern coast, Uluwatu is famed for its spectacular rock formations, world-famous surf breaks and its sea temple. The temple is perched on a 70-metre cliff overlooking the Indian Ocean, providing the perfect locale to sit back, relax and enjoy the show. The best time to visit the temple is in the late afternoon, when traditional Balinese Kecak and Fire Dance performances are held on the cliffside stage as the sun goes down in the background. When visiting the temple, be mindful of your belongings, as the cheeky monkeys that reside here may take off with your sunglasses and hold them ransom in exchange for bananas! The Temple of Ulu Watu is a short drive away from Kuta, Seminyak and Jimbaran, making it an easy day trip from Bali’s bustling tourist hub.

Uluwatu is surrounded by magnificent rock formations, offering breathtaking ocean views. The temple is perched on a cliff 70 metres above the Indian Ocean, providing stunning views of the ocean and the dramatic coastline below. The temple is dedicated to the spirits of the sea and is considered one of Bali’s most important religious sites. The temple is built on a series of three terraces, each higher than the last, and is made of black coral rock. The temple is surrounded by beautiful gardens, providing a serene and tranquil setting for visitors. The temple is open daily from sunrise to sunset, and admission is free. Visitors are welcome to explore the temple and its gardens at their own pace, taking in the stunning views and the peaceful atmosphere. The temple is a must-see destination for anyone visiting Bali, offering a unique and unforgettable experience.
Immerse yourself in island living, a vibrant culinary scene and Balinese wellness at Mövenpick Resort & Spa Jimbaran Bali.

This five-star resort, just 100 metres from Jimbaran Beach offers the perfect space to unwind. The breathtaking views of Jimbaran Bay and the resort’s lush gardens complement its five-star accommodation. Choose from 297 elegantly furnished rooms and suites which offer everything you need for a relaxing stay in Bali including free WiFi, flat screen TVs, and rain showers.

Explore an array of culinary experiences with five different venues which reflect a wonderful mixture of local delicacies, Asian specialities and international favourites. Enjoy healthy, organic options during breakfast and experience the various options during lunch. From à la carte heaven to themed buffets and fusion cuisine to designer cocktails, you can savour it all at Mövenpick Resort & Spa Jimbaran Bali.

Treat your guests to wonderful event venues in Bali, complemented with a touch of Swiss excellence. With a dividable ballroom for up to 300, three meeting rooms and a boardroom, the five-star Mövenpick Resort & Spa Jimbaran Bali offers plenty of indoor space with modern facilities. In addition, outdoor dining venues and the island in the middle of the swimming pool are perfect for romantic wedding celebrations or special events.

Bali is well-known as a wellbeing destination and the spa at Mövenpick Resort & Spa Jimbaran Bali allows you to explore the island’s wellness traditions in depth. Indulge in soothing body treatments, ancient Balinese massages and Indonesian healing rituals that will leave you feeling refreshed, renewed and re-energised.

Relax at the pool with swim-up hammocks, stay fit in the fully-equipped fitness centre, take advantage of the lap swimming pool or scheduled yoga classes in the tropical garden.

When you stay at Mövenpick Resort & Spa Jimbaran Bali, you are granted access to Samasta Lifestyle Village shopping and cultural complex and also have a comfortable and convenient base to explore Bali’s unique landscape, rich culture, heritage and people. Further afield, go river rafting, mountain trekking and learn more about the locals. Stroll along pristine beaches, visit sacred temples, dive and swim in the crystal clear ocean, shop at local markets and soak up live music. There is also plenty to do in and around Jimbaran and nearby Uluwatu.
KARMA RESORTS

Karma Resorts offers a portfolio of elite boutique accommodation. Enviable surroundings are matched with architectural ingenuity, state-of-the-art amenities and attentive service.

Karma Kandara
Set on a spectacular cliff top high above the Indian Ocean, Karma Kandara comprises 54 private pool villas available in one to five-bedroom configurations. Each boasts a private pool, en suites, spacious living, kitchen and dining area with top of the line appliances, sleek contemporary furnishings and traditional artworks.

The resort’s award-winning amenities include a gymnasium, main infinity pool, library and meeting facilities, 24 hour reception and in villa dining, destination restaurant di Mare, a post-modern pavilion serving Mediterranean cuisine with pacific twists with the Temple Lounge above.

Accessed via a hill tram, Karma Beach Bali is a bamboo folly set on a white beach lapped by a cerulean lagoon, where guests enjoy custom cocktails and Mediterranean flavours. Karma Spa brings together sublime cliff-hanging spa shacks where body workers and visiting masters perform healing rituals and massages. The resort also offers a dedicated kids’ club.

Karma Reef
Located northwest of Lombok, Karma Reef exudes laid-back sophistication. With a prominent position on one of Indonesia’s most recently discovered holiday destinations, the tiny island of Gili Meno epitomises bohemian chic and offers direct access to one of the world’s most beautiful coral reefs.

The perfect romantic escape for honeymooners and intimate gateways, Gili Meno offers blissful privacy and breathtaking seascapes, truly fulfilling that exotic Robinson Crusoe fantasy of being stranded on a deserted island. Wake up to the most stunning sunrises imaginable and celebrate each day with one of Indonesia’s famous sunsets. Experience charming, lumbung-style villas, or luxury canvas tents equipped with all the home comforts and thoughtful extras you’d expect from a five-star hotel.

Each day at The Reef revolves around simple pleasures including leisurely cat-naps, relaxing to world-class music at the beach club, swimming in the crystal clear Indian Ocean, snorkelling amongst hundreds of tropical fish and indulging in culinary delights. The spa tent is right on the beachfront, so you can enjoy the sea breeze and listen to the gentle ocean while you indulge in a beauty treatment or massage.

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Atop a dramatic cliff that cascades down to meet the ocean, Anantara Uluwatu Bali Resort offers an infinite panorama of sky and sea.

Designed with contemporary Balinese touches, a collection of 74 suites and private pool villas showcases a seamless blend of innovation, function and indulgence. Each private haven offers a high tech entertainment system including a 42” LCD television, an audio jack system and Bose® sound system.

Modern minimalist architecture frames Bali’s natural beauty as sliding glass walls and floor-to-ceiling windows offer amazing sunset views and bathe each suite in natural light. Outdoors, each private balcony boasts a signature jacuzzi.

Available in garden or oceanfront settings, each two- or three-bedroom pool villa offers the allures of a private pool, a sun deck and a wrap-around tropical garden. Enhanced by spacious living and dining areas, the design encompasses glass walls and charming touches of Balinese artistry.

The 360 Restaurant offers a range of cuisines served with breathtaking views of the ocean. Start your day with an energising breakfast while a separate menu is offered for a light, healthy lunch. Return in time for sundown and a magical dinner. Sample the best of modern Japanese at SONO Teppanyaki and discover the interactive thrill of a live cooking show as you dine from a delectable fusion grill menu. The stylish pool-cliff dining retreat, Sea Fire Salt offers the perfect setting to enjoy your favourite cocktails or try some of the mixologist’s inventive creations.

Dining by Design, Anantara’s signature program lets you discover a bespoke dining experience in an exquisite location complete with a private chef and butler to offer you the experience of Anantara’s tailor-made focus and heartfelt service.

Perched on a cliff, the glass wedding venue, Dewa Dewi Chapel, offers an intimate ceremony promising a magical celebration. Exchange vows overlooking an unforgettable view of Indian Ocean’s and Bali’s legendary, breathtaking sunsets.

Spend time surfing on Impossible Beach, the resort’s secluded beach, or delve into the fascinating local culture with temple visits and cooking classes. A regular shuttle service is available to nearby beaches, shopping centres and cultural sites as well as free bike rental, yoga sessions, watersports, surfing lessons and an affiliation with local golf courses.

Unwinding at the Anantara Uluwatu affords the idyllic pleasure of plunging into the cliff-edge infinity pool, energising at the fitness centre, and rejuvenating body, mind and soul at Anantara Spa.

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THE EDGE

This exclusive private villa estate in Bali is perched on the Uluwatu clifftops, soaring 500 feet above the Indian Ocean with spectacular panoramic views to the horizon.

Nestled within three hectares of tropical gardens in the traditional village of Pecatu, The edge is just 30 minutes from Ngurah Rai International Airport.

The edge offers eight opulent private villas and resort facilities include the award-winning The Spa, gym, tennis court and ten pin bowling lanes, unique wedding and event venues, gorgeous ocean-view restaurant and oneeighty° cliff front bar with its spectacular glass bottomed swimming pool extending five metres over the edge of the cliff.

Bespoke service
The Magnum Butler accredited butler team is on hand, around the clock to ensure the comfort and privacy of each guest, and each butler is well trained to assist with any and all requests. The edge’s renowned service does not stop with the butler team, guests will enjoy professional and personalised attention from arrival to departure and everywhere in between.

Exclusive luxury
Each villa and its bedrooms have stunning views overlooking the Indian Ocean and include state-of-the-art entertainment systems, complimentary Wi-Fi, a private natural stone pool and jacuzzi-style bathtubs. Opulent interiors and first class amenities set the scene for a truly once in a lifetime villa experience.

Clinging to the rock face of a stunning sea cliff, designed to fuse with its surroundings, The Spa seemingly skims above the blue sea, all the way to the horizon. With liquid floors and wall-less rooms, its lightness of being seduces and liberates the senses.

Sublime wining and dining
Renowned Executive Chef Nyoman Suasa, former Sous Chef of The Beverley Wilshire in Los Angeles, leads the culinary team and tailors all menus based on guest requirements. Whether it be a casual barbecue in the garden, decadent afternoon tea at the cliff edge, show-stopping degustation dinner in the villa or modern Indonesian cuisine at the in-house restaurant, The edge’s culinary team is ready to impress.

An extensive wine list, housed over two purpose built cellars and curated by Nyoman Suwinda Yasa, Bali’s Best Sommelier 2016, is sure to provide the perfect accompaniment to any situation. At the bar or in your villa, the mixologist team can conjure up cocktails on request, to complement another perfect day overlooking The edge’s stunning Indian Ocean panorama.

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The culture of multinational surfers, backpackers, well-heeled tourists, families and the forever friendly Balinese ensures South Kuta remains a unique place for tourists.

The Kuta region is Bali’s largest tourist area and most visitors to Bali will visit it sooner or later. Centrally located, it is minutes from Denpasar and the airport. It offers a wide range of accommodation, a plethora of restaurants and tourist facilities in a buzzing atmosphere.

Though Kuta isn’t for everyone, if you enjoy the beach and bar scene it is the best and most exciting place in Indonesia.

Surfing is a hugely popular activity in Kuta with countless shops hiring out surfboards. Lessons and surf tours can be arranged as well.

Australians once dominated the tourist scene however it is now much more diverse. French, English and Japanese tourists are all common and Kuta has become extremely popular with surfers the world over.

Local activities include rafting, diving, bungy jumping and horseriding, which can all be organised through local travel agents. Waterbom Bali is hugely popular with children. It is supervised by lifeguards, and has assorted slides, pools and rides that the whole family will enjoy.

Almost all hotels have a swimming pool and most will allow non-guests to use their pool for a small fee.

Spa establishments can be found throughout Kuta for a true indulgence. Massages are available in most hotels but are much cheaper on the beaches.

Kuta nightlife features music, arak (local alcohol) and happy hours that last all night. The busiest bars and clubs are along Jalan Legian, such as the new Paddy’s and the Bounty Ship.

Merging almost seamlessly with Kuta to the south, is Tuban. It is a little quieter than Kuta but is thriving on tourism.

Aside from all this, Kuta still remains a Balinese village with quiet compounds and small offerings to the gods left in every doorway. The culture of multinational surfers, backpackers, well-heeled tourists, families and the forever friendly Balinese ensure South Kuta remains a unique place for tourists.

Legian

The village of Legian was established as an alternative to Kuta and is now almost an extension of it with the two blending into each other along the main streets of Jalan Legian and Jalan Melasti.

There is no shortage of places to eat in Legian, with roadside stalls (warangs) and restaurants in five-star hotels. Many exclusive hotels line the picturesque beachfront and its central location, burgeoning nightlife and accessibility to major tourist attractions make it a perfect alternative to Kuta.
Sprawling across 3.5 hectares of tropical property, Hard Rock Hotel Bali is located in the heart of Kuta, Bali’s famous entertainment and shopping district.

**Rooms**

Hard Rock Hotel Bali is Asia’s first Hard Rock Hotel and the leading entertainment hotel in Bali featuring 418 tribute rooms and suites fit for a rockstar that reflect the glory and legends of rock ’n’ roll, alongside cutting edge food and beverage outlets. One of the most popular options for family travel is the Roxity Family Suite. The suite features one Deluxe Premium master bedroom with king size bed, one kids’ room with bunk beds (ideal for children below 12 years of age), a spacious living room with two daybeds, a dining table, en suite bathroom and separate kids’ bathroom. Guest staying in the Roxity Family Suite enjoy a non-direct access to the exclusive Chill Out Pool which is furnished with cabana-style daybeds and the kids receive complimentary membership at the Roxity Kids Club.

Discuss business strategies, host team building sessions or organise themed events, private functions and dinners in any of the Hotel’s rock ’n’ roll themed meeting and conference rooms. For conventions, weddings and banquets, the refurbished meeting rooms offer a unique MICE program that features a range of themed parties and events in any of the entertainment spaces.

**Entertainment**

The hotel’s design and concept focuses on the Hard Rock Experience. Lounge lizards love the pool, the largest freeform swimming pool in Kuta that boasts a unique sand island for sunbathers. Centerstage is at the heart of the hotel and doubles as a lobby, a bar, a live music venue with performances every night and even a rock museum. The Ultimate Foam Party offers a permanent foam party area every friday for families with a multi-level DJ booth and lockers to keep your belongings safe and secure. Other family activities include a paddle boat race, water volleyball, water polo, surf board race, beach volleyball, walk on the water and Olympic Games for kids. The hotel is also wired for sound with a state-of-the-art Boom Box recording studio. Rock Spa offers a wide range of treatments to restore and balance the mind, body and soul. Other facilities fit for a rock star include the restaurants, Jamie’s Italian Kuta Beach by Jamie Oliver, Splash Bistro, Starz Diner and Starz Deli, Sunset Point and The Shack Bar.
Amnaya Resort Kuta is an intimate hotel set in a natural environment providing genuine and warm service amidst the upbeat energy of Bali’s most colourful tourism district.

There are a total of 116 spacious guestrooms and suites. The Deluxe Room provides a restful environment to unwind with customised furnishings, a modern bathroom and a decorative wall that showcases Bali’s creative legacy, and a private balcony with a hidden daybed.

The Amnaya Room is meticulously styled. It features smart décor with a unique work of local artistry adorning one entire wall. The balcony has a seating alcove for heightened privacy. An elegant bathroom with a rain shower cubicle and a floor standing bathtub promises spa-styled bathing indulgence. The Amnaya Room Pool Access is positioned on the ground floor with a small gated courtyard and easy access to the pool. It is the epitome of contemporary Balinese elegance with a designer décor in soothing shades of grey.

The Junior Suite offers a spacious sanctuary designed to reflect modern Balinese elegance, perfect for honeymooners or couples, while the Family Suite enables families to stay together in a peaceful contemporary Balinese setting without compromising adult privacy.

Designed to take personal comfort to the next level, the Amnaya Suite redefines the concept of island-inspired luxury with separate areas to sleep and lounge about in style. Bespoke furnishings and touches of local artistry add to the sophistication of this charming environment and the bathroom is resplendent of a modern spa featuring a rain shower and lavish tub. Designed with traditional aesthetics,

Bhava Spa blends different local culture’s design elements together using bleached wood and shades of cream, sprinkled with colours in muted tones. Bhava Spa cherishes tradition and nature by using only the freshest local ingredients. Rejuvenating massages and wellness treatments are performed by a team of intuitive therapists to nurture body, mind and spirit. The main swimming pool is perfect for early morning laps and refreshing dips. There is ample space to leisurely laze the day away with a collection of reclining chairs and shady umbrellas.

Sukun Restaurant and Bar is a casual open-plan dining venue featuring fun wall cut-outs, colourful mosaic tiles and a sky-inspired ceiling fitted with quirky light fixtures. The restaurant celebrates the diverse flavours of the Indonesian archipelago with a menu driven by island-fresh produce and seasonal specialties.
KUTA SEAVIEW BOUTIQUE RESORT & SPA

This beachfront resort rests on the sands of Kuta beach, well known for its surfing and magnificent sunsets, providing everlasting bliss for the perfect holiday under the sun.

With a concept to create a hidden world in keeping with tradition and in tune with nature, Kuta Seaview Boutique Resort & Spa is simple yet luxurious, exotic and romantic. Set amongst lush tropical gardens, this boutique resort offers 88 rooms and suites to cater to all tastes and budgets. Each room has air-conditioning and is furnished in contemporary Balinese architecture, equipped with modern, standard room facilities.

This boutique hotel is located within a few minutes walk from Bali’s iconic landmarks: the beachfront Beachwalk Shopping Mall, Hard Rock Café, Poppies Lane, Kuta Square shopping arcade and markets, and Waterbom Park.

Great shopping, dining and nightlife venues are on your doorstep, not to mention the magic of Bali’s beaches. Soak up the tropical sun and experience the splendour of a Bali sunset or join the surfers at bustling Kuta Beach a few metres in front of the resort.

The swimming pool with lazy chairs and surrounding big red sofas is the perfect spot to relax. After an exciting day under the sun, pamper yourself with a relaxing massage or beauty treatment at the Royal Rama Spa.

Rosso Vivo is the place to be for intimate occasions such as pre-dinner drinks, or a sunset dinner or head to the poolside bar for a refreshing cocktail overlooking the beautiful Kuta beach.

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RAMAYANA RESORT & SPA

Ramayana Resort & Spa is located in the heart of Kuta Bali, within walking distance to the famous Waterbom Amusement park, Discovery Shopping Mall, Kuta Square and various restaurants and entertainment venues.

There are 185 well-appointed rooms, all thoughtfully designed to meet the different preferences of valued guests. All rooms are furnished and decorated in contemporary Balinese décor, and equipped with 42 inch smart TV, internet access, coffee and tea making facilities and well-stocked minibar. The resort also features an open-air wedding venue and Wi-Fi hotspot is available throughout the resort.

Rejuvenate your body and soul at Rama Spa with authentic, traditional Balinese rituals and treatments, for the ultimate pampering in paradise experience.

The resort takes pride in its assortment of restaurants. The Gabah Restaurant, an authentic traditional Indonesian restaurant showcases Indonesia’s rich cultural heritage accompanied by the sounds of flowing water and traditional music played by musicians. Sports lovers will be delighted by the Stadium Cafe & Sports Bar where three giant screens and LCD television display live sport events. Seafood House prepares the best Chinese food with the freshest ingredients. For the finest quality sashimi, sushi and teppanyaki, head to Bluefin, the chic Japanese restaurant. Al Dente serves delicious Italian pasta, pizza and irresistible lamb shanks. Finally, indulge your sweet tooth with a selection of pancakes and homemade gelato at Flapjacks.
This boutique hotel takes contemporary elegance to the next level with a fresh and edgy design concept that puts a playful twist on the traditions of tropical architecture.

Strategically located for business and leisure travellers alike, H Sovereign Bali offers world-class facilities and impeccable service. Just minutes from Ngurah Rai International Airport in the lively area of Tuban, it is close to major access roads including the Bypass and the new Benoa Toll. It is within easy walking distance to the Krisna Bali complex for an island-inspired culinary experience or to shop for handicrafts and souvenirs.

**Subtle sophistication**
A selection of 198 well-appointed rooms and suites are styled to anticipate the needs of modern travellers with customised furnishings and high-end amenities that give each room category a look of subtle sophistication.

Décor is primarily neutral but comes alive with random pops of colour and mood enhancing lighting. In-room amenities include a LED television with satellite channels, air-conditioning, complimentary Wi-Fi access, safety deposit box, coffee and tea making facilities and a mini bar.

Guests staying in suites have the privilege of unlimited access to the Sovereign Club. This exclusive lounge facility is a smart space to relax and enjoy a range of special services and entitlements.

Appetites are satisfied with a choice of dining venues. Enjoy all-day dining with international favourites and Indonesian specialties at Kitchen Meliwis. Owl Stone Café & Bakery is a great spot to unwind in casual surroundings and enjoy light bites and tempting baked goods with family and friends. With an intimate cozy atmosphere, 28 Lounge Bar provides a tapas menu and selection of beer, wine and spirits. Sip refreshing drinks and savour light bites at 7 Clov³r Sky Bar that boasts panoramic views and is the perfect spot to watch the sunset.

The Spa at H Sovereign Bali embodies personal wellness with a range of facilities to help guests look good and feel even better. This is complemented by a fully-equipped gym, jacuzzi, sauna and yoga room. Versatile facilities for business delegates include six meeting rooms with supporting audio-visual equipment. Each meeting room is fully air-conditioned for comfort and can be arranged in different configurations to accommodate presentations, training seminars and tabletop discussions.
SEMINYAK, CANGGU & TANAH LOT

With its central location, burgeoning nightlife and accessibility to major tourist attractions, this area is a perfect alternative to Kuta.

To the north of Kuta, quieter and less crowded, is Seminyak, surrounded by the areas of Canggu and Tanah Lot.

**Seminay**

Seminay, has a reputation among tourists for being more sophisticated and having a more stylish nightlife than Kuta. The shopping centres and busy streets of Kuta are just 15 minutes to the south, and the more rural area of Canggu is just a 25-minute drive to the north.

Seminay has also become extremely popular for its wide range of restaurants featuring all cuisines with eateries lining the beach. The multitude of upmarket boutiques, shops and markets make for fascinating shopping trips. Seminyak has become the luxury spa destination in Bali. By local standards, treatments may seem expensive but are probably half the price, or less, than you would pay at home. Most hotels offer an in-house service and in-villa treatments are widely available.

**Canggu**

Further north of Seminyak is Canggu that is widely used to refer to the eight-kilometre coastal stretch running north from the village of Berawa, just north of Seminyak, to the village of Cemagi, just south of Tanah Lot.

The beach is popular with surfers at certain times of the year and the once rural farmland full of green rice paddy fields, is now packed with luxury villas, boutiques, cafés, restaurants and beach clubs.

Most of the action in Canggu can be found near Batu Bolong, a beach best known for its longboard-friendly break and Old Man’s, a lively beer garden and surf club.

**Tanah Lot**

Over thousands of years, the tiny island of Tanah Lot was gradually formed as a result of erosion by ocean tides. Surprisingly modest, it comprises of two shrines with tiered roofs, two pavilions and a few small buildings. Access down to the temple is through a sideshow alley of souvenir shops and market stalls. It is a highly spiritual place, and visitors will often see people making the trip to meditate nearby or walking to the water in order to receive the ministrations of priests.
Maca Villas & Spa Bali emerges as a uniquely stylish yet personable addition to Bali’s upscale villa lifestyle.

This luxury boutique villa resort offers 23 one-bedroom villas and two two-bedroom villas scattered amid lush landscaped gardens.

Modern Balinese design
Villas seamlessly balance unique elements of Balinese aesthetics and contemporary design with a spacious open-plan living and dining area, and a deluxe bedroom encircled by glass folding-doors. Spa-inspired bathrooms reveal stand-alone bathtubs, all with an LCD flatscreen TV and rainforest shower.

The living room opens onto a spacious timber sundeck that is ideal for relaxing before dipping into the shimmering waters of your very own private pool.

For extra indulgence, two-bedroom villas provide a generous sized outdoor lounge area, and Deluxe Villas feature a bale pavilion with daybeds. All villas provide modern amenities including a digital entertainment system, IDD telephone, iPod docking station, LCD flatscreen with satellite channels, plus complimentary Wi-Fi and iPad use.

Whether you’re looking for a weekend getaway, an all-inclusive retreat, or a family holiday, and regardless of whether you’re an outdoor adventurer, a gym fanatic, or someone seeking the mind-body connection, Maca Villas has it all.

The SOHAM Wellness Center is the place to go for world-class fitness facilities, MMA Boxing and total body workout classes, yoga, hot yoga and pilates session, outdoor olympic-size pool, healthy café, spa and healing treatments, head to toe salon services and a lifestyle boutique.

Maca Villas & Spa Bali prides itself on gourmet-style food and beverages. The charming Masé Kitchen and Wine Bar offer an array of international cuisine with organic produce, fresh herbs and spices. The gratified bar offers an extensive wine list consisting of over 100 bottles of international wines. Enjoy superior lattes and cappuccinos on the charming open-air deck or at the coffee bar.

Ippolito Coffee Café brings award-winning Papa Palheta specialty grade coffee beans from around the world and freshly roasts, grinds and brews them on-site.

This tropical sanctuary is tucked away in a quiet village-style lane yet just a short stroll from Petitenget Beach and the world-class restaurants, designer boutiques and beach clubs for which the area is famed.

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W BALI – SEMINYAK

An opulent playground for discerning visitors, discover the perfect place to retreat from the stresses of modern-day life and immerse yourself in an island escape where you’re surrounded by peace, tranquility, local style and contemporary sophistication.

On the legendary beach of Seminyak, experience the juxtaposition of traditional Balinese mythology and W Hotel’s invigorating energy and dynamic aesthetics with an abundance of eclectic boutiques and galleries, world-class dining and sensational nightlife at your doorstep.

Prepare to be enchanted by custom designed contemporary luxury matched with W signature chic touches, and cutting-edge modern amenities. A spectacular selection of 237 retreats, suites and villas includes 76 wonderful Garden View Retreats, 76 spectacular Ocean Facing Retreats, and for a serious wow-factor there are four marvelous suites, one WOW Suite and one Extreme WOW Suite. For more privacy, there are 65 Marvelous One-Bedroom Pool Villas, 10 WOW Two-Bedroom Pool Villa’s and four Extreme WOW Three-Bedroom Pool Villas. Your private tropical oasis, with spectacular views of the ocean or verdant gardens offers high-speed wireless internet access, W signature beds, Bliss Spa amenities, plush bathrobes, soaking bathtubs and rainforest showers. Indulge in the delightfully wicked Munchie Box and mini bar, plug into state-of-the-art technology including a Bose® sound system, flat screen LED TV, IP phone and voicemail.

Exhilarating resort living revolves around you. Enjoy lounging on the beach, where beach ambassadors make sure you never have to lift a finger. Discover an escape within an escape at AWAY® Spa where natural healing therapies restore your senses to perfect equilibrium. Get pumped at FIT, the state-of-the-art fitness centre. Get your feet WET® in the tropical landscaped pool while drifting in the lap of luxury or hide from the limelight in the serenity of W Oasis. With a complete WIRED Business Centre and Whatever/Whenever® at your service, all the comforts of home and more will have you mixing and mingling in fine style.

Get ready to uncover a scrumptious selection of the world’s finest flavours. Awaken your taste buds at beach side Starfish Bloo, get your heat on at FIRE, cool down at ICE and flirt with your senses at WOOBAR. Just a buzz brings the 24-hour epicurean offerings to your doorstep.
ANANTARA SEMINYAK BALI RESORT

Dive into Bali’s rich culture, local charm and international style at Anantara Seminyak Bali Resort, an elegant beachfront retreat in a prime location.

Anantara’s 59 luxurious suites offer modern comforts and panoramic views of the Indian Ocean. Enjoy a host of the finest amenities including plasma screen TVs, complimentary internet connection, a double-sized Hansgrohe ‘rainmaker’ shower, Bose® DVD player, surround-sound system, iPod with docking station and espresso machine.

Cocooned in luxury
Expansive, free-flowing living spaces feature Balinese-inspired décor with oversized built-in beds, and floor-to-ceiling glass doors and windows that open out to large private balconies with signature terrazzo hydro baths for two. For the ultimate in luxury, the Anantara Penthouse features two en suite bedrooms, a fully equipped kitchen with stocked pantry, private library, and a 120-square metre outdoor barbecue terrace and infinity pool.

The resort plays host to some of the finest restaurants in Seminyak. Indulge in a unique dining experience that offers a blend of international and local flavours. The Moonlite Kitchen & Bar offers modern Asian cuisine with captivating coastal views. Sip on seductive cocktails at sunset or savour a lustful menu, paired with selections from the award-winning wine cellar. Spectacular ocean sunsets await you at the relaxed beach retreat, Sunset On Seminyak. Cosy into beanbags on soft sands while chill-out music blends with the sound of the rushing surf and sets the perfect mood for sundowners. Ambient evenings flow with signature cocktails, shisha and international and Indonesian snacks.

Recreation and relaxation
The resort offers unique activities and excursions to provide guests with opportunities to explore the vibrant natural beauty and spiritual heartland of Bali.

Dive into an up-close discovery of Bali’s famous coral reefs and unspoiled marine life. A number of popular watersports and activities can be enjoyed, while the fitness centre is well equipped to work up a sweat.

Discover the joys of the upscale enclave of Seminyak, home to some of the island’s most elegant restaurants and cafes, shopping and a chic nightlife scene drawing international jetsetters from the world over.

Relax at one of three pools overlooking the Indian Ocean or indulge in a wellness journey by trying the Balinese massage or soothing body treatments, scrubs, aromatherapy and beauty enhancing facials on offer exclusively at the spa.

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THE SEMINYAK BEACH RESORT & SPA

The Seminyak is a stylish beachfront resort set amidst lush native greenery, lily ponds and traditional thatched pavilions. With distinct Balinese touches, this modern retreat provides a welcome escape.

Modern Balinese luxury
A choice of elegantly appointed accommodation has been designed for optimal comfort to accommodate the needs of today’s savvy travellers. Each room features 42” LCD TV with satellite channels, DVD player, iPod docking station, Wi-Fi internet connection, in-room safety deposit box, IDD phone, minibar, tea/coffee making facilities, air-conditioning, a private balcony and pillow options. The Room category features stylish décor complete with lavish bathroom facilities and a private balcony. The Suite category celebrates island sophistication with modern furnishings and a jacuzzi overlooking the ocean provides the ultimate in bathing luxury.

One Bedroom Villas, available with garden or beach views, perfectly embody the concept of tropical living with an open-style design that incorporates a generously sized swimming pool and shaded pavilion. Bedrooms feature an indulgent en suite bathroom and jacuzzi. The Two-Bedroom Villa is a haven of relaxation nestled within the confines of a Balinese-style garden compound. With a spacious living environment, family sized swimming pool and shaded outdoor pavilion, it is the perfect setting to enjoy quality leisure time in the company of loved ones.

The Santan Restaurant, a collection of modern dining pavilions surrounded by lush tropical scenery, conveniently features an all-day dining menu of international cuisine and innovative dishes. Unwind and enjoy Bali’s celebrated sunset over a refreshing drink at The Sanje Sunset Lounge that boasts prime ocean views. A poolside bar serves an extensive beverage menu including beer, exotic cocktails and blends of seasonal fruit juice. Recently launched, The Cellar is a unique concept of a wine shop and cellar. The first of its kind in the Seminyak area, The Cellar offers a range of wines and Champagnes from all around the world.

Leisure activities include an impressive infinity pool and sport equipment is available for rental, as are bicycles; or keep active at the resort’s fitness centre. Find balance, peace and tranquility at the Kahyangan Spa, a sanctuary that embraces your wellbeing with a concise treatment menu.

Golf courses are nearby and complimentary shuttle services are available to Seminyak, Legian and Kuta.
Located in the sleepy coastal village of Canggu, about 35 minutes from Kuta, is Ametis Villa, a new contemporary resort designed to elevate your tropical holiday to the height of luxury.

With its refreshing interpretation of an intimate Balinese community, Ametis features private villas, each a modern sanctuary that blends indigenous timber with glass and metal to create dramatic living and sleeping spaces that seamlessly merge into the outdoors. Customised furnishings together with unique works of art reflect a look of tropical elegance where comfort is paramount.

Stylish retreat
The Premiere Villa is a stylish retreat that is perfect for honeymooners who will be left entirely to their own devices to enjoy the modern one-bedroom suite that is complete with a lavish bathroom and a separate living area with gourmet kitchen that overlooks the refreshing waters of the pool.

The slightly larger Imperial Villa ensures that every conceivable need is anticipated before it is even realised. This category suits guests who appreciate the finer things that life has to offer. A generous living space and gourmet kitchen provide some convenient home comforts.

The Grand Villa is a private haven designed to accommodate no more than six discerning travellers. The sheer size of this villa with its elevated swimming pool and smart living environment offers a privileged taste of tropical Balinese luxury.

Personal butler service
To ensure that every guest enjoys an experience that is intimate and discreet while providing the highest level of service, a personal butler is assigned to each villa.

The butler’s sole purpose is to anticipate your every need and exceed your every expectation. He can arrange various activities including trekking or cycling to the coastal villages and breathtaking rice fields of nearby Canggu or organise a gourmet picnic under shady umbrellas on the beach that is just a five-minute walk from the resort.

Ruby Spa offers treatment rooms that are dedicated to a customised program of Zen healing and wellness practices. A menu of ancient, inspired rituals is delivered using modern expertise to nurture the body, mind and spirit. The elegant spa uses pure fresh products to deliver soothing treatments and its therapists are highly trained in the intuitive art of touch.

Ametis Villa elegantly and unobtrusively combines a perfect holiday destination with the highest level of service.
For a day out in Bali suitable for every family member, this recently renovated leisure and sports facility is the place for you.

Finns Recreation Club is Bali’s premier entertainment and sporting venue set on a sprawling four hectare estate amongst the rice fields of Canggu, just ten minutes from Seminyak and approximately 30 minutes from the airport. The club features a complete fitness centre including lap pool and sports ground, tennis centre, spa, sports bar, multiple restaurants and much more!

Splash Water Park features a variety of high adrenalin slide options as well as a water wonderland for younger family members. It has its own dedicated food and beverage outlets so you don’t have to venture far from your day bed and is constantly under the watchful supervision of fully trained life guards. For more adrenalin fueled fun, Bounce, Bali’s only indoor trampolining centre comprises of a network of elite trampolines, wall walks, jumping pits and dodgeball courts. Strike Bowling is located upstairs and is a great way to get active whilst having fun. Enjoy a selection of beverages from the bar as well as Asian, Mexican, Pizza and more from the Strike Bar menu.

A fully equipped fitness centre offers a range of classes, PT sessions and the latest hi tech gym equipment with ladies’ and gents’ locker rooms, sauna, steam rooms and showers and Bali’s best manicured, fully fenced sporting field right outside. The Finns Recreation Club Tennis Centre has three undercover flood lit tennis courts with flexi pave surface. A hitting wall is also available for players practice. Other facilities include bathrooms, equipment shop, café and bar. Take advantage of the recently revamped, Bistro C Smoke House with signature smoked cuts and char grilled dishes offering a wide range from both land and sea, designed with sharing in mind. The accompanying Sports Bar is the perfect place to take in an array of live sporting events on the multiple screens in air-conditioned comfort. Indulge in some pampering at the Body Temple Spa that will leave you refreshed and renewed.

With many flights out of Bali departing in the wee small hours, Finns Recreation Club is the perfect place to finish your Bali break with some fun. Staff will tag and store all luggage securely so you and your family can relax and take full advantage of the multitude of options available for entertainment, exercise, pampering and play. Should younger children require a little rest time before their night flight, check them into Cubby House Kids Club for a few hours.
DASH HOTEL SEMINYAK BALI

In the heart of Seminyak, this one-of-a-kind hotel caters to the value-minded, yet stylishly distinguished guest.

Dash Hotel delivers a retro-relaxed feel with all the modern conveniences and technology you’d expect, combining creativity, comfort, style and affordability.

The hotel’s impeccable chic décor and thoughtful service embodies all that is Bali: cultured, eclectic, and undeniably fun.

Stylish and comfortable, with custom iron furnishings, graffiti artwork and retro industrial chic light fixtures, the Dash Studio is 32 square metres with balcony, luxury twin and king beds.

The Dash Deluxe combines glam and grit. In the room, iron headboards reinforce the industrial ambiance, with solid wood beds constructed from a Javanese Joglo. The Dash Deluxe is 48 square metres with balcony, luxury super king bed.

Smartly styled, the two-bedroom Dash Two category features industrial design with energy and colour, creating a comfortable and social hotel living space. The 96 square metres of apartment style living includes a large king bedroom with en suite bathroom, adjoining living area with lounge, dining area with pantry, twin bedroom with separate bathroom.

All accommodation is equipped with free Wi-Fi, a flat screen wall mounted TV (30 inches in the Dash Studio and 40 inches in the Dash Deluxe and Dash Two), select TV with movies on demand and 75 satellite channels. You will find a refreshment centre with minibar, tea and coffee making facilities, climate controls and laptop compatible in room safe.

The bathroom features a rain shower, shower and body products, rich terry cloth towels, kimonos and slippers. Plus there is a bath tub in Dash Deluxe and Dash Two bathrooms.

The Rabbit Hole Spa which has a solid reputation for consistent and quality treatments offers an extraordinary spa experience with a range of treatments for head to toe pampering.

Mya Kitchen & Cocktails is an all day dining venue influenced by Thai, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Indian, Burmese, and Balinese food using fresh ingredients. This type of food is meant to be sampled, shared, passed around and consumed with impulse and informality. Mya Cocktails are dedicated to bringing unrivalled drinks quality to a discerning crowd of grown-ups. The Shack is a laid back rooftop lounge bar and sundeck, a great place to hang out and watch the sunset.

Other facilities include an outdoor pool, a fitness room, and a business centre.
In the heart of Seminyak, these luxury villas offer stylish fittings and modern comforts in a tranquil setting.

Sprawled amidst lush gardens and waterways, there are seven villas available in two- and three-bedroom settings. Each comprises a spacious separate living and dining area and kitchen. All bedrooms have an en suite bathroom with open-air shower, double vanity and dressing area.

Stylish open-plan design
Relax in the complete privacy of your own Bali luxury villa. The stylish design blends both modern and Balinese open-plan living. Step outside to lush gardens and your own private pool, all surrounded by high walls, ensuring your absolute privacy.

For your enjoyment, each villa is equipped with modern amenities including air-conditioning, satellite TV and DVD player in each bedroom, IDD telephone, complimentary wireless internet connection, stereo system, iPod dock and in-room safe. Every Kembali private villa also provides a room maid who will prepare your breakfast in the mornings.

Kembali Villas have a team of masseurs and treatment personnel available who can provide spa treatments including massages, facials, manicures and pedicures depending on your individual requirement. These treatments are all carried out in the comfort and convenience of your own villa. Alternatively, visit one of the established spas in close proximity to Kembali Villas.

Kembali Villas is ideally located within walking distance to the beach as well as many of Bali’s most popular restaurants, shopping and entertainment venues. A complimentary transfer is provided to and from the airport that is only 30-minutes away.

Allure and natural beauty
Activities and adventure abound in Bali allowing you to discover the allure and natural beauty of the island. Choose from a variety of water activities including surfing, parasailing, water skiing and banana boat rides. The ocean to the east and south offers you exciting fishing locations or opt for an exhilarating rafting excursion down the rapids of the Ayung River.

The 18-hole championship course, Bali Nirwana Golf Course, is only 30 minutes away near the Tanah Lot temple. Scenic and cultural tours are offered and are a perfect way to enjoy the spectacular scenery off the beaten track.
THE TRANS RESORT BALI

A luxury oasis in the heart of Seminyak, The Trans Resort Bali offers a sophisticated blend of rich Indonesian tradition and contemporary refinement.

Luxurious accommodation
The resort features 184 exceptionally appointed guestrooms and suites. Guestrooms feature a spacious balcony with daybed and private hot tub overlooking the sandy beach pool and garden. Suites feature a spacious living room and a terrace giving private access to the secluded pool.

There are 16 palatial villas with private pools, designed to indulge with spacious living and dining rooms in the middle of a lush Balinese garden. Villas feature an oversized bathroom, hot tub, and an outdoor shower. The three-bedroom Presidential Villa is privately staffed with a dedicated 24-hour butler. All accommodation features mood lighting control, exclusively designed bedding with 100% goose down and customised linen made of Egyptian cotton, luxurious amenities, temperature and humidity control, oversized bathroom with separate shower room with overhead rain and hand shower, double wash basin and bathtub, multi-media docking station, extensive cable television channels, complimentary high-speed wireless internet access, coffee and tea facilities, and complete 24-hour on-call STAR (Service to All Request) service.

World class facilities
Relaxation is redefined at The Trans Resort Bali with its endless blue water main pool, a sandy beach pool, towering waterfalls, and kids’ pool. There is a Kids Club, The Fitness Centre with two yoga rooms plus separate male and female steam and sauna rooms, and hot and cold tubs. The Spa is ready to pamper with an array of luscious wellness treatments such as the sea salt scrub for a glowing and invigorated skin, and the luxurious caviar and pearl facial treatment.

Celebrate special events at The Grand Ballroom, the biggest ballroom in Seminyak with stunning crystal blown glass chandeliers, can accommodate up to 1,100 guests for a standing cocktail event. The seven boardrooms are ready for all meeting purposes. All of the multi-purpose venues are equipped with state-of-the-art audiovisual and sound equipment.

The restaurant features authentic Indonesian, Chinese, and Western dishes while afternoon tea, canapés and cocktails are served at The Lobby Lounge. Enjoy an exclusive 10% off best available room rates or events when you book directly with the hotel and mention the promotion code “Asian Paradise 2017”. Terms and conditions apply.
SANUR

As well as a beautiful white sand beach and a safe swimming area, there are plenty of restaurants, nightspots and good shopping in Sanur.

Sanur, a five kilometre east-facing stretch of picturesque coast, is an idyllic location. It is an upmarket alternative to Kuta, yet not as exclusive (or expensive) as Nusa Dua.

The area has a relaxed holiday atmosphere without the hustle and bustle of central Kuta. As well as a beautiful white sand beach and safe swimming area, there are plenty of restaurants, nightspots and good shopping.

From the 13th to the 16th centuries, chronicles refer to the importance of Sanur priests and scholars and today, Sanur is one of the few communities still ruled by priests of the Brahmana caste.

These priests recognised both the threat and opportunity that tourism presented and imposed the famous rule that buildings cannot be taller than the highest coconut tree and established village co-operatives to ensure that a share of economic benefits remains within the community.

Known throughout Bali as a home to sorcerers and healers, Sanur is often revered. The black-and-white chequered cloth seen around Bali is emblematic of Sanur. Symbolising the balance of good and evil, it can be found adorning the many temples in the region.

A string of ancient temples can be found near the beach. Their low-corralled walls and platform altars are peculiar to Sanur. Anniversary celebrations at these temples are exuberant and strange to Westerners. Sanur is also home to the oldest dated artefact found on Bali—a pillar, with inscriptions on it recounting military victories more than a thousand years ago and making reference to King Sri Kesari Varma who came to Bali in AD 913 to teach Buddhism.

Prior to World War II, Sanur was popular with a few prominent Western artists such as Adrien Jean Le Mayeur, writer Walter Spies and anthropologist Jane Belo. The Belgian artist Le Mayeur lived in his house in Sanur from 1935 until 1958 and it is now a museum.

Activities in the area include camel rides, cycling and a plethora of watersports such as sea walking and snorkelling at the nearby reef.

Sanur is renowned for its spectacular kite flying competitions during July, August and September which are staged by the local community councils. The kites can be up to 10 metres long, require a dozen men to launch them and traffic is halted when they’re carried down the roads.

Part of the charm of Sanur lies in its tranquility. Mainly a resort for families wanting to experience genuine Balinese culture, the nightlife is limited to the bars and discos in the larger hotels.

A huge advantage is its proximity to inland destinations, such as Ubud, which is around 40 minutes away.

Sanur is a place of remarkable contrasts. It is rich in culture, history and activity and is bound to intrigue any visitor.
This all-suite boutique hotel, centrally located in the heart of Sanur offers sophisticated accommodation, personalised service and indulgent comfort for an unforgettable holiday experience.

**Sophisticated suites**

Kejora Suites offers a new level of luxury with a variety of exclusive suites. Thoughtfully designed, 12 Deluxe Suites offer 38 square metres of interior space with flexible sleeping arrangements. The six Premier Suites are conveniently situated on the ground level around the elegant poolside deck with tropically landscaped entrances and a captivating pool-level patio. Each 40-square metre room is artfully conceptualised and features a cozy lounge decorated in contemporary hues with solid tropical wood accents.

The Signature Suite is designed especially for discerning travellers with a generous interior space of 45 square metres. Indulge in indoor-outdoor living at its finest with a convenient ground level pool and garden views, and a lush, tropical private entry to your veranda.

Each suite offers an opulent level of elegance and modern amenities include Nespresso machines, high-thread count fine linens, hand-hammered brass fittings and concealed air-conditioners as well as commissioned photography and works of art, custom designed furnishings and high tech in-room entertainment systems.

Kejora Suites is committed to introducing an elevated concept of hospitality to the beachfront of Sanur. A dedicated concierge is at your service to book an engaging itinerary or to help with spontaneous event planning. Whether it be a VIP reservation at one of the island’s hottest restaurants, a romantic culinary escape for two, sailing along Bali’s tranquil coastline aboard a luxury yacht, a day of snorkelling, or fishing, a sunset temple tour or a customised wellness experience, the choice is yours.

Offering a unique fusion of Indonesian, Asian and European delights, contemporary dining venues include The Glass House, Kejora’s relaxed fine dining signature restaurant specialising in all-day dining and special events.

Kejora Beach Club is the ultimate place to enjoy your morning coffee, as you take in stunning views of the island’s east coast and Mt. Agung. Enjoy a healthy salad and freshly squeezed juice delivered directly to your lounger at lunch. For dinner, allow the concierge to reserve an intimate table for two beneath the island’s legendary starry skies.

**KEJORA SUITES**

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SEGARA VILLAGE

Segara Village is a sanctuary of tropical charm that recreates the ambience of a traditional Balinese community.

Situated in Sanur, along a white sand beach that is sheltered by a coral reef, the resort is perfectly situated. Local market stalls, stylish shops and international dining options are all nearby.

Encompassed within a garden of lush greenery, this beachfront retreat celebrates the island’s unique culture and rich artistic heritage and maintains a unique Balinese village concept with its five distinct village areas retaining their original local charm.

There are 125 rooms decorated in neutral tones with splashes of bright colour and sleek wooden fixtures. All rooms offer modern amenities and some feature a state-of-the-art entertainment system.

Deluxe Rooms with spacious balconies or terraces overlook lush tropical gardens and the resort’s own Balinese temple. There are 56 Deluxe Rooms and 47 bungalows with modern interiors and interconnecting rooms available, they are ideally suited for families or groups. The 22 exclusive Segara @Village 2 bungalows are clustered around a courtyard swimming pool and feature a balcony furnished with a comfortable sofa-style daybed. Segara Village offers a range of services and recreational facilities including a children’s club, culture club, three swimming pools, and the Segara Leisure Club with windsurfing, parasailing and diving among the many watersports available. Enjoy a game of tennis on the floodlit tennis court or challenge others to a game of table tennis. The tour and travel desk will help with day tours. The gift shop offers a postal service and as well as photo processing, there is a babysitting service and a library. For relaxation and pampering, The Spa at Segara is a pure haven with unique wellbeing and body treatments.

Le Pirate Restaurant offers an excellent breakfast buffet with international and Asian cuisine served for lunch and dinner. Minami Japanese Kitchen & Teppanyaki emphasises fresh, subtle variations and the exquisite presentation of Japanese favourites. For aficionados of authentic wood fired pizza, Amuse Gueule boasts an Italian red brick oven and also offers sumptuous patisseries, baked fresh daily.

Sip on refreshing beverages and exotic cocktails at The Jacuzzi Bar or the Byrdhouse Cocktail Lounge & Bar is the perfect spot to unwind by day or night with drinks and live entertainment. Complimentary afternoon tea with a selection of traditional Balinese cakes is also served here daily.
A visit to Ubud isn’t complete without going to the Monkey Forest Sanctuary south of the village which is inhabited by cheeky monkeys waiting for visitors with peanuts.

Located in the lush slopes leading up towards the central mountains, Ubud is the cultural centre of Bali. A sanctuary for artisans, this quiet Balinese village is 60 minutes by car from Ngurah Rai International Airport. Ubud has a peaceful atmosphere and is a haven from busy Denpasar and Kuta.

Complementing the ancient temples and palaces is the unspoiled countryside that offers picturesque rice paddies, rivers and gorgeous scenery.

There are many wonderful walks in every direction from Ubud, through the rice terraces, villages, jungle gorges and grassy hilltops. Organised walks cover a variety of themes including birdwatching and exploration of historic and cultural sites.

Ubud’s beautiful surroundings and gracious way of life have drawn artists from all over the globe in recent decades, some of whom have even adopted Ubud as their home.

The main gallery areas are Jalan Raya, running from the Peliatan crossroads in the east all the way up to Sayan in the west; the main street through Peliatan; Pengosekan Village; Batuan Village; Penestanan Village; and the town of Mas, where the big-name woodcarvers have palatial galleries with impressive facades and enormous signs.

Ubud is also known for its selection of Batik fabrics, carvings, jewellery and paintings.

Ubud also has several art museums. To gain a true appreciation of Balinese art, visit Museum Neka which features mostly modern works by Balinese, Indonesian and Western artists who have worked in Bali, and also take time to see Museum Puri Lukisan—Ubud’s “Palace of Art”. Founded around 40 years ago by a group of artists and patrons from the Ubud royal palaces, it is set in a peaceful garden with fountains, statues and pools.

The main crossroads in front of the Puri Saren palace is the ‘navel’ of Ubud—its cultural and historical focal point. Away from the main streets, Ubud is a quiet place featuring small lanes lined with homestays, warungs and Balinese compounds extending north and south from the main road.

A visit to Ubud isn’t complete without going to the Monkey Forest Sanctuary south of the village which is inhabited by cheeky monkeys waiting for visitors with peanuts. The interesting Pura Dalem Agung (Temple of the Dead) is also located in the forest and features amazing ancient trees and sculptures.

Ubud features a range of accommodations including luxury properties with great spa settings and facilities, wonderful health retreats and spectacular views.

There are cultural shows on nearly every night and organised tours can be easily arranged to visit other parts of Bali. Its central location makes it easy to get from Ubud to the mountains, beaches and major towns.

The main street is also lined with restaurants and cafés with a wide range of delicious foods to cater for all tastes.

Although visitors often outnumber residents during peak periods, Ubud retains its charming, unhurried atmosphere and distinctive way of life of a small rural community.
**Viceroy Bali**

Viceroy Bali is an ultra-luxurious all-villa resort consisting of 25 villas situated on a secluded ridge of the Petanu River gorge along Bali’s Valley of the Kings, near the popular village of Ubud. The resort boasts stunning valley views, impeccable service and first-class facilities including the renowned restaurant and bar, Cascades, and opulent spa and beauty centre, Lembah.

**Luxurious tropical hideaway**

Regarded as one of the world’s most luxurious tropical hideaways, the resort offers stunning valley views, impeccable service and first-class facilities including the renowned restaurant and bar, Cascades, and opulent spa and beauty centre, Lembah.

**Private pools**

All villas are generously appointed with the latest electronic amenities, espresso machines, king size beds as well as private heated pools and relaxing outdoor spaces each with valley vistas.

The Pool Suites offer a bedroom and sitting room with ample space, a combined indoor and outdoor living area and a spacious open-plan bathroom integrating the private indoor swimming pool and daybed.

The 14 Deluxe Terrace Villas feature clean lines and a vibrant design that is simple and elegant. Each includes a living room with sectional sofa, oversized king bed, espresso machine, 47” TV, iPod docking station, private heated pool and sheltered outdoor pavilion.

The Vice Regal Villas seamlessly integrate traditional Balinese architecture with contemporary design. Looking out to the dramatic gorge, the villas have high, thatched ceilings with the large bedroom integrated with the comfortable sitting room that opens to the outdoor dining pavilion and garden for private sunbathing. The elegant Viceroy Villa features two spacious bedrooms that open to a central living and dining area. The garden has a large heated private pool with a Balinese pavilion perched on the edge of the Petanu River gorge.

**First-class facilities**

The resort additionally offers its guests a gym with cardio and resistant training, day spa, private heli-pad, valley-top infinity pool and library. For award-winning dining, Cascades Restaurant at Viceroy Bali is considered one of the island’s top venues.

The town of Ubud is conveniently located within minutes from the resort. It is the ideal destination for guests wishing to explore one of Southeast Asia’s most charming villages with its leisurely pace and eccentric ambience, bric-a-brac shops, galleries and quaint restaurants.

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Hanging Gardens of Bali is an award-winning, luxurious destination nestled deep in the heart of the jungle.

Overlooking the Ayung River and ancient Dalem Segara temple, the hotel stands on the edge of a stunning valley, surrounded by lush jungle and picturesque rice terraces.

Revitalise in a lush and intimate paradise at Hanging Gardens of Bali, recently named the World’s First Seven Stars Boutique Hotel and awarded as one of the top destinations in Asia to visit.

Here guests can experience award-winning spa treatments, surprising gourmet creations and discrete privacy; all delivered with the warmth of Balinese hospitality at its best.

The 44 private villas are designed with traditional Alang Alang thatched roofs in complete harmony with nature and reflect a sense of discrete luxury. There is a combination of contemporary and Balinese décor with signature hand-crafted furniture, exotic fabrics, open-aired dining areas and spectacular master bathrooms.

At the geographical epicentre and its spiritual core, is the world’s most remarkable swimming pool. It is without a doubt one of the most photographed pools and has the unique distinction of being named The World’s Best Swimming Pool by Condé Nast Traveller and number one on TripAdvisor’s list.

The truly luxurious Spa Collection offers a once in a lifetime spa experience using local ingredients and ancient techniques to create beauty therapies that soothe the mind, rejuvenate the body and energise the soul.

Embark on a five-star culinary journey orchestrated by creative chefs using a modern and innovative cooking approach that combines global flavours with a strong focus on the quality of the ingredients.

Select from a range of romantic dining experiences such as the notably renowned romantic temple dinner, set in a sacred and magical location, followed by a walk and purification ritual with a local mangku and a traditional Balinese blessing ritual, conducted by the local priest.

Guests may also try candlelit romance under the stars, dining à deux on a volcanic rock pillar in the iconic swimming pool or a gourmet picnic served in a secluded balé right on the banks of the spectacular Ayung River.

Explore the unique opportunities that one of the best resort’s in the world can offer. The diversity of the award-winning resort, activities and restaurants means that every day is filled with inspiring experiences.
THE ROYAL PITA MAHA

The Royal Pita Maha overlooks the Ayung River at Batu Kurung.

Located in the picturesque area of Kedewatan, a spiritually revered place believed to be blessed by the gods, this exquisite mountain retreat commands spectacular views in the Ubud region of Bali.

The resort is a luxurious expression of the true essence of Bali. Constructed using traditional Balinese design methods, such as alang-alang roofs, the resort is fully integrated into the surrounding landscape. Open pavilions overlook rice terraces, river gorges and tropical woodlands.

Owned, built and managed by Ubud’s royal family, the resort offers a Royal House, 10 Healing Villas and 41 Pool Villas. Each villa has a private garden, outdoor lounging area and a swimming pool overlooking the Ayung River.

The facilities and services include 24-hour villa service, laundry and drycleaning, access to a doctor and complimentary broadband in each villa. There is also a wellness and healing centre, organic farm, in-house watersports and a departure lounge. Two lobby lounges and two main swimming pools, as well as a springwater lagoon on the Ayung River front, complete the resort.

Business travellers also have a full range of facilities available including an in-house event organiser to ensure every function hosted at the resort is a success.

Palatial setting
The main restaurant is elevated over three levels to embrace the sweeping views and serves Balinese inspired cuisine, international specialties and afternoon tea and cocktails on each of the three levels respectively. There is also an organic restaurant—the Ayung River Bar & Lounge that offers light snacks and beverages against a stunning natural backdrop.

Guests have privileged access to the nearby attractions of the Ubud Palace, the colourful traditional market, the exciting monkey forest or the Museum Puri Lukisan. Go on jungle treks, guided elephant tours or whitewater rafting. Day trips can easily be made to Kuta, Nusa Dua or Sanur. Local artists and performers feature regularly at the resort which has an open-air stage for cultural performances and an in-house art gallery showcasing the best of Ubud’s artists.

With panoramic views and luxurious villas, The Royal Pita Maha is a resort of true elegance and beauty.
Discover a royal Balinese concept of accommodation nestled in the middle of a traditional Ubud village.

Utter tranquility
The perfect place to relax and renew, Dwaraka Villas is perfectly located to offer a tranquil retreat away from the hustle and bustle of the city, yet remains less than a five-minute drive to Ubud, the thriving culture and arts centre of the island.

Ideal for those seeking exclusivity and exotic luxury, the property boasts ten lavish villas, bespoke facilities, an organic themed restaurant and lush spa.

Royal villas
With mesmerising views of Ubud’s verdant rice fields and surrounded by lush tropical gardens, there are five categories of luxurious Balinese villas, including Royal Suites, One and Two-Bedroom Pool Villas, the President Suite and the Puri Taman Sukewati, a royal Balinese house consisting of three bedrooms. Inspired by the ancient story of Lord Krishna’s kingdom, Dwaraka Kingdom, the architecture of the villas incorporates the finest Balinese design with luxurious touches of gold, rich colour and intricate detail.

Bespoke amenities
All accommodation features rich design, colour and artwork reflective of traditional design concepts complemented with attentive, discreet service and bespoke amenities. Air-conditioning, free Wi-Fi, bathrobe and slippers, tea and coffee making facilities and daily turndown service are standard inclusions in each room.

Dwaraka Restaurant is located on the second floor of lobby, facing out to the rice fields. This fusion restaurant offers a range of raw, healthy food, as well as international favourites and traditional Balinese dishes.

A royal experience
Beside the main pool, the spa offers a variety of traditional treatments to complete guests’ royal experience. Private yoga sessions can be conducted in your private villa or by the main pool area overlooking the beautiful rice fields.

For those wishing to explore the natural wonders of the area and learn about the local culture, rice paddy treks with the guest activities attendant are available. Complimentary bicycle hire is available at the resort enabling you to explore the natural beauty of Ubud and its surrounds at your own pace. Cooking lessons are also offered and commence at the morning market where you select your fresh vegetables, fish, meat, herbs and spices.
NORTH BALI & OTHER REGIONS

Renowned for its variety of picturesque landscapes, lovely beaches and villages where traditional ways are preserved.

There are a number of other regions on the island of Bali which are popular with travellers.

On the northeastern coast lies the small village of Tulamben which has a friendly atmosphere and wonderful food. Tulamben is best known for spectacular dive spots including a drop-off and the sunken American ship, Liberty, torpedoed by the Japanese in 1942. Now encrusted with marine flora, it is home to thousands of tropical fish.

The area boasts picturesque rice fields with massive black rivers of volcanic rubble from the 1963 eruption of Gunung Agung. As Bali’s highest and most revered volcano, it dominates the easternmost district of Karangasem which is not only renowned for its variety of scenic landscapes and lovely beaches but also for villages such as Manggis where traditional ways are preserved.

The mountainous region of Kintamani is located in the northeast of Bali and centres around the spectacular caldera of Gunung Batur with its deep crater lake and hot springs. Kintamani has a range of accommodation but is easily accessible for day trips from Kuta. It is great for trekking, sightseeing and shopping. Gunung Batur is still active but much of the crater is farmed by villagers with water from Lake Danau Batur. Every three days, a colourful market is held where fresh produce and handmade clothing is sold.

In the northwestern corner of Bali is Pemuteran, a small village untouched by tourism. Bordered by the Java Sea and jagged mountain ranges, the area is too dry for rice cultivation so the local people traditionally live off the sea. Following years of destructive fishing around the offshore coral reef, a conservation project has been instituted. This has resulted in greatly increased numbers of marine life, perfect for snorkelling and diving.

Visitors to Pemuteran may also be interested in Menjangan Island just off the coast, the dramatic Pulaki Temple which is perched on the side of a cliff, the botanical gardens at Bedugul and Sing Sing waterfall.

Natural wonders continue to be a drawcard in the west of the island. The Bali Barat National Park is renown for its dive sites, flora, fauna, great trekking and pristine, beautiful beaches.

Off the east coast is Nusa Lembongan, a small island covered with coconut trees, mangrove forests and small farms. Most people visit Nusa Lembongan to enjoy its quiet beaches, surfing or diving on day cruises from Bali.

The village of Jungutbatu is charming with quiet lanes and a few temples. A popular temple is Pura Segara, which has an enormous banyan tree within its complex.

About four kilometres away is Lembongan Village where visitors can take a tour of the eerie underground house where a man excavated his cave with a spoon.
ALAM ANDA OCEAN FRONT RESORT & SPA

Situated on the north-east coast of Bali, tucked away from the tourist trail is the exclusive Alam Anda Ocean Front Resort & Spa.

A three-hour drive from Bali’s international airport will bring you past rice terraces, temples and quaint villages to the picturesque resort. Directly by the sea, set amongst two hectares of tropical palm gardens, Alam Anda is the perfect choice for exploring the island, unforgettable diving or simply relaxing.

Accommodation consists of nine Seafront Bungalows, 12 Deluxe Garden-Bungalows, two Losmen, the double bungalow Ambu Ambu, two Bahari Villas, the Lumba Lumba and Purnama Villas.

The two-bedroom, two-bathroom villas, Bahari one and two, have been completely rebuilt on a prime beachfront location.

Each villa has a private swimming pool and gardens as well as a sunbathing area with its own beach access. With verandas that simultaneously serve as magnificent open-air living rooms, these villas are a luxurious home-away-from-home.

The spacious Alam Anda Natural Spa includes a main massage house and three treatment pavilions surrounded by landscaped gardens and watercourses. The professional Balinese therapists use only natural ingredients.

For relaxed dining, the hotel’s restaurant is just a few metres from the water’s edge and features Indonesian specialties tailored to international tastes.

Located on-site is the Werner Lau Diving Centre, well equipped to cater to divers of all levels. Directly in front of the hotel is the house reef that is a designated conservation area ensuring a pristine environment for diving.

From Alam Anda it is possible to visit all the top dive sites in Bali, many of which can be reached in less than an hour. Experience fabulous diving at the top spots along the north-east coast and anticipate seeing Mola Molas, Mantas and much more. At Tulamben, just 40 minutes from the hotel, you will find the fascinating Liberty wreck, Tulamben drop-off and an interesting coral garden. Dive courses are run for all levels. Diving with nitrox is offered free of charge to certified EAN divers.

Excursions can be arranged for guests by the hotel staff and include trips to nearby villages, coffee plantations, as well as the active volcano at Kintamani.

Sambirenteng/Tejakula, Bali INDONESIA
Tel: +62 8124 65 64 85  Email: book@alamanda.de or hotel@alamanda.net  www.wernerlau.com or www.alamanda.net
SIDDHARTHA OCEAN FRONT RESORT & SPA

In the north-eastern corner of Bali, this state-of-the-art hotel offers the luxury of a boutique resort with a relaxed and informal ambience amidst stunning tropical surroundings.

The resort is an integral part of the community in the local village of Kubu. Guests at the resort are considered special friends by the friendly locals and are afforded the warmest hospitality that is evident from moment they arrive.

Accommodation consists of a choice of comfortable and inviting Superior Bungalows, Deluxe Bungalows and Oceanfront Deluxe Bungalows and villas.

The luxuriously furnished Santai and Pantai Villas offer modern facilities with Balinese inspired interior design and local artwork creating a harmonious holiday experience. Situated in a private garden directly on the beach with a private swimming pool, each villa, including terrace, is approximately 150 square metres and has two bedrooms, with en suite and semi open-air bathroom. The bedrooms are separated by an open-plan living room with a lounge.

Nestled in the tropical gardens, Superior Bungalows are furnished in modern Balinese-style, and most have a view of the ocean. Two of the seven Superior Bungalows interconnect making them particularly suitable for families or groups.

The Deluxe Bungalows are situated some distance apart from each other giving guests privacy while they enjoy the fishponds, fountains and statues of Balinese gods situated in the huge tropical garden. Most of the Deluxe Bungalows have a view of the ocean and are shaded by numerous palms and other trees that dot the resort to create an ideal environment for relaxing.

The five luxurious Oceanfront Deluxe Bungalows enjoy a prime position right on the beach. Extremely spacious with all modern conveniences they are a home-away-from-home.

Access to some of Bali’s best dive sites can be organised by the award-winning Diving Centers Werner, and snorkelling on the house reef is also possible. The resort additionally offers an extensive spa with six treatment rooms, free daily yoga lessons, honeymoon and wedding packages on request and a gaming room.

Siddhartha Ocean Front Resort & Spa has all you could wish for in an exotic, luxurious holiday at an affordable price.
Situated beachfront on Bali’s northeast coast, The Tauch Terminal Tulamben Resort & Spa offers a perfect escape from the crowds in south Bali and offers access to some of Bali’s most famed dive spots.

Extensive upgrades to rooms, bungalows, the dive centre and restaurant in were recently completed in February 2017.

Combining traditional Balinese design with contemporary amenities, the interiors and furniture have been personally designed and customised by the owner. With spacious living rooms, all deluxe rooms are equipped with comfortable sofas and a private terrace with personal sunbeds. Conveniently, the entire resort also has Wi-Fi internet access.

After a breathtaking dive, relax and enjoy the never-ending blue sky and surrounding scenic beauty on a hanging sunbed on the sun deck of the upper floor rooms. Enjoy a refreshing swim in one of the resort’s two pools, or opt to indulge in a rejuvenating traditional Tulamben Spa treatment.

The new beach bar, next to the freshwater swimming pool, is a great place to hang out during the day or enjoy a beverage after an excellent dinner at the two-storey seaside restaurant that serves exquisite traditional, European, Asian and Western cuisine.

Bali’s best dive destinations
Voted Best Dive Resort Bali consecutively from 2005-2015 by Best Bets Bali, the resort’s hi-tech and fully maintained dive centre and shop is ready to accommodate all divers’ needs at one of Bali’s best dive destinations. These sites include Tulamben’s very own house reef, the historical USAT Liberty, Amed House Reefs, Candi Dasa Mimpang and Biaha shark caves, Nusa Penida and Lembongan’s Mola-Mola encounter as well as Menjangan Island, part of the National Marine Park on the west coast of Bali. Occasionally, the professional dive team will offer adventure trips to a site they have recently found.

Being the only SSI Diamond Dive Facility in Bali, all divers are catered for and services include dive courses from entry level such as Scuba Ranger for children as well as various specialised instructor training programs. To guarantee the best service and satisfaction, all dives are accompanied by a dive guide with a minimum accreditation of dive master and there is free nitrox at Tulamben.

The staff at the resort encourages all guests to leave their watches and stresses at home because Tauch Terminal Resort Tulamben & Spa is the place where time simply doesn’t matter.
A surfer’s dream, Nusa Lembongan is a small island off the southeast coast of Bali. This island paradise is a world away from the hassle and hectic pace of South Bali, you will notice a quieter pace as soon as you arrive. Only 30 minutes from Sanur, most of the scheduled fast boat services leave from Sanur and Padang Bai in East Bali. Nusa Lembongan is approximately eight kilometres square in size and is one of three neighbouring islands, Nusa Penida and tiny Nusa Ceningan separated from Bali by the Badung Strait.

The main activities on the island include surfing, diving and snorkelling. Surrounded by vivid blue water, the water is some of the clearest you will find anywhere in the region and is host to some premier reef breaks. There are many dive shops on the island and the snorkelling and diving off Nusa Lembongan and Nusa Penida are well known for being home to vibrant coral reefs and a diverse marine life.

Nusa Lembongan is a nice place to walk, with coastal paths linking nearly all the guest houses, hotels and restaurants. The less developed southwestern area of the island has some spectacular coast paths which provide easy walking, great views back to Bali, and spectacular sunsets. The roads are quiet and most are well surfaced. Scooter and bicycles are widely available for rent to explore the island at your own pace. You can cross by foot or bike to the small neighbouring island of Nusa Ceningan via a scenic suspension bridge.

Your stay on Nusa Lembongan can be as luxurious or as low key as you like. There’s no shortage of bungalow-style accommodation, as well as more upmarket resorts and villas that cater for couples and larger groups.

The main beach, Jungut Batu in the northwest offers a myriad of hotels and eateries. Popular with daytrippers, Mushroom Bay to the southwest of Jungut Batu is a quaint, attractive white sandy beach, along with some cosy little water-side restaurants.

Further south, Dream Beach is one of the most beautiful on the island and is increasingly drawing more visitors. There are numerous restaurants and beachside warungs that offer a relaxing spot to chill on a beanbag over a beer with fresh grilled fish.
Discover the perfect escape to an intimate and charming resort with modern comforts, private villas and traditional Balinese hospitality.

Paradise awaits you at Lembongan Beach Club & Resort. Only a 30-minute boat ride from Bali, discover crystal clear beaches with white sand, and a serene atmosphere.

Surrounded by natural beauty
Set right on Jungut Batu beach, Lembongan Beach Club & Resort is made up of just 37 private villas, most with private swimming pools. Designed with natural materials in a modern Balinese-style, each villa provides ample personal space to retreat surrounded by natural beauty.

Room categories include Deluxe Room, One Bedroom Garden Villa, One Bedroom Private Pool Villa, One Bedroom Premiere Private Pool Villa, Two Bedroom Premiere Private Pool Villa and One Bedroom Grand Premiere Private Pool Villa which offers the ultimate escape for couples, honeymooners, group of friends and families.

The Beach Club Restaurant overlooking the ocean offers mouthwatering international and local cuisine options from international to Asian à la carte delights made from fresh seafood, imported meats and locally-grown organic vegetables.

An infinity pool overlooking the beach with sun loungers is the perfect spot enjoy the stunning sunsets and a signature cocktail. Lembongan Beach Club & Resort provides an unforgettable accommodation experience and the perfect base to explore the still undeveloped Nusa Lembongan with world class diving, surfing breaks and stunning corals to enjoy. Spend a day on Dream Beach soaking up the sun or delve beneath the surface into the historic cave house.

Relax and de-stress
Step into the world of Tjendana Spa, where the instinctive traditions of the local staff—warmth, hospitality and natural wellbeing—not only embrace you, but seep through those built-up walls of hectic modern day life, gradually breaking them down to leave you relaxed, de-stressed, comforted and in-tune with the natural world around you.

The resort offers the perfect backdrop for an island wedding with wedding planning services and tailor-made wedding packages with photography, flowers, catering, music and anything else your heart desires for your special day.
With its pristine white-sandy beaches, the magnificent Mt Rinjani volcano, and spectacular marine life to discover, the island of Lombok in West Nusa Tenggara has no shortage of attractions both in, and out of the water.

Lombok is located to the east of Bali and is geographically the same size. A wide range of destinations is guaranteed to suit even the most discerning visitors. Whether you wish to surf the massive breaks on the south coast, challenge yourself with a trek up steep volcanic peaks, or hire a bike and cycle through lush, abundant rice paddies, you won’t be disappointed with the spectacular natural beauty of Lombok.

The island enjoys a tropical climate with warm and humid weather all year round with a temperature range of 21°C to 32°C. The wet season starts from November through to May and the dry season starts from May through to October.

The island has a population of about 3.1 million and the local inhabitants are called Sasaks who comprise 70 percent of the population. The remainder consists of other predominant ethnic groups such as Balinese, Chinese, Arabian, and Javanese. Bahasa Indonesia is the national language but English is widely spoken.

Lombok has three distinct districts with three main cities. Mataram, the centre of commerce and the capital city, is in the west, Praya is in the centre and Selong is located to the east of the island.

Popular tourist resort area, Senggigi, is a township that is positioned on a sweeping bay providing magnificent views of a rich, fiery red sunset over neighbouring Bali. Visitors to Lombok also flock to one of the three Gili islands- Gili Trawangan, Gili Meno and Gili Air. These picturesque tropical islands are just a short 40-minute boat ride from Senggigi.

The majority of the population is Muslim with most worshipping in the mosques on Fridays, their holy day. If you are planning on travelling around the island and visiting small villages, be respectful and considerate of the Islamic beliefs and wear or knee length shorts, a shirt with sleeves or a sarong. If you happen to visit during Ramadan, which is the Muslim month of fasting from sunrise to sunset avoid eating, drinking or smoking in public places during this month-long fast.

Lombok has a reputation for amazing, woven textiles. Songkets (hand-woven textiles) and ikats (intricate dyed fabric) can be used, amongst other things, as sarongs, wall hangings, or tablecloths. The design woven is unique to each weaver and it is passed down through the generations.

There is a traditional handweaving village in Puyung in central Lombok where visitors can try on a traditional Sasak costume, and the village of Sukarara is a must visit for kain ikat or handwoven textiles. Lombok is also known for its magnificent South Sea cultured pearls, and its pottery has gained in popularity and is now shipped all over the world. There are many other traditional handicrafts that make perfect gifts or souvenirs including wooden masks, baskets made out of ketak grass and wooden boxes decorated with shells. Visit the village of Banyumulek where arguably, some of the best pottery is produced.

Public transport in Lombok comes in the form of buses and bemos (a small minibus). The main bus terminal is Mandalika at Bertais. Hiring a car or motorcycle is a convenient way to explore the island. Hotels and travel agencies offer the most competitive rates for car and motorcycle hire.

To get to Lombok, you can travel by air, ferry or fast boat. There are daily flights between Denpasar, Bali and the capital of Lombok, Mataram. The public ferry travels between Padang Bai (Bali) and Lembar (Lombok) multiple times a day, and the trip takes roughly two and a half hours. Both motorbikes and cars can be taken on the ferry.

Ferries also travel between Labuhan Lombok and Poto Tano on Sumbawa several times a day, and this trip takes one and a half hours. However, if you are prone to seasickness, the trip can be rough. Another option is by fast boat Blue Water Safaris run express boats from Bali to Lombok, the Gili islands and Lebongan Island.
Hotel Vila Ombak is located on the sun-kissed island of Gili Trawangan, on Lombok’s northwest coast.

Traffic-free surrounds and a pristine beach ensure Hotel Vila Ombak is an idyllic getaway. The hotel is close to magnificent snorkelling and diving sites, and has its own diving academy with fully qualified instructors to cater for all levels of diving abilities.

The hotel features 149 traditionally inspired guestrooms, each specially appointed to match your holiday needs. A wide range of accommodation categories offered include 36 units of Superior Lumbung Terraces, 24 traditional Lumbung Hut rooms, 12 Deluxe Family Bungalow rooms, 24 Deluxe Ombak Rooms, 36 new Deluxe Terrace Rooms, seven one-bedroom Akoya Private Pool Villas and 10 two-bedroom Akoya Private Pool Villas.

All rooms are fully equipped with individually controlled air-conditioning, in room safe, minibar and refrigerator, coffee and tea making facilities, satellite TV, IDD telephone and all feature large semi-open bathrooms.

Rejuvenate the soul
For the ultimate in pampering and relaxation, the Roemah Spa is located on-site. The spa blends traditional Eastern skill with modern Western technology, and offers a wide range of luxurious health and beauty treatments.

There are many culinary options to satisfy all appetites. Indulge in dishes prepared by the hotel’s award-winning cooking team, with efficient and attentive staff attending to your every need. The hotel has a dedicated catering service and facilities, where a team of experienced staff can organise events from birthdays, engagements, weddings, to anniversaries or business meetings.

The hotel has an impressive range of facilities and services, including a 24-hour health clinic, business centre, watersport centre, souvenir and art shop, three-level swimming pool with whirlpool and pool bar, laundry and dry cleaning service, money exchange service, tour desk, ATM and Wi-Fi hot spot.

Hotel Vila Ombak also has its own 100-metre private beach, and can arrange tours and excursions including Gili Island hopping tours, Mount Rinjani excursions, glass bottom boat trips, sea kayaking and snorkelling.

With sweeping views of the ocean and Lombok’s towering Mount Rinjani, Hotel Vila Ombak invites you to spend your holiday in its private tropical paradise.
Hotel Ombak Sunset is an expression of world-class luxury mixed with the unique and exotic style of the Indonesian islands.

Hotel Ombak Sunset is situated on the quiet western side of Gili Trawangan and boasts stunning sunset views of the magnificent sun sinking behind the rolling mountains of Bali.

Choose from a range a categories including Deluxe Terrace Rooms, Island and Sunset Bungalows, the Agung Ocean View Room, Agung Ocean View Suite and the Two-Bedroom Suite.

Each spacious room and suite has its own private balcony or terrace with exceptional ocean, pool or garden views. The smallest details have been carefully considered when it comes to comfort with modern technological conveniences including Wi-Fi internet access throughout the resort and in all bedrooms.

Hotel Ombak Sunset boasts exceptional dining options. With an open-air setting and magnificent sea views, the Horizon Restaurant offers an exceptional dining experience with a selection of gourmet Western favourites and exotic Indonesian options. Sip on a summer cocktail as you savour the breathtaking Gili Trawangan sunset, or float up to the Blue Coral Pool Bar and enjoy a day of fun and sun with a couple of friends and a refreshing beverage.

Enjoy the sanctuary of Akira Spa with unique treatments featuring traditional and natural extracts and plants or pamper yourself from head to toe with relaxing massages and spa treatments. The spa’s menu authentically blends Indonesian and Western spa treatments and techniques designed to rebalance the synergy between the mind and body.

Hotel Ombak Sunset facilitates a variety of tours and cruises around the Gilis and on mainland Lombok. Take a Rinjani Mountain tour or a tiny horse and cart (cidomo) tour around the island to explore local food markets, traditional temples and other cultural highlights.

A variety of water activities is available at the resort including banana boating, glass bottom boating, snorkelling and diving. Well-known for its abundant sea life and vibrant corals and reefs, Gili Trawangan has long been regarded as one of the most popular dive locations in Indonesia.
Malaysia

Geographically divided into two, Malaysia has a peninsula stretching from Thailand to Singapore, where most of the country’s 13 states and Federal Territory can be found. Sabah and Sarawak occupy 60 percent of land mass in the northern part of Borneo. Rich in history and diverse in culture, Malaysia is blessed with enchanting islands, beautiful mountains, tropical flora and fauna, as well as modern, thriving metropolises.

Capital and major centres
Malaysia consists of six major regions with Kuala Lumpur the capital city. Peninsular Malaysia’s central region is made up of the states of Selangor, Negeri Sembilan and Malacca, while the north is occupied by Penang, Perlis, Perak and Kedah. Terengganu, Kelantan and Pahang make up the east coast, and in the south is the state of Johor. The states of Sabah and Sarawak are on the northern third of the island of Borneo. Each region has unique qualities in terms of features, local culture, food and historical sites.

The people
Malaysia is a fascinating mix of ethnicities, ranging from the Malays, Chinese, Indians and indigenous Orang Asli (Original People) of Peninsular Malaysia to the diverse tribal communities of Sabah and Sarawak in East Malaysia. Although the national language is Bahasa Melayu (Malay), English is widely spoken amongst the population of around 31 million.

Nature
Malaysia has a precious collection of national parks and wildlife reserves, which have been established to protect flora and fauna unique to the region. More than 60 percent of the country is under rainforest cover, home to over 8000 species of flora in Peninsular Malaysia alone, as well as 2000 tree species, 800 types of orchids and over 200 varieties of palm trees. More than 200 species of mammals, 600 different bird varieties, 140 species of snakes, 80 types of lizard and thousands of exotic insects also share the same land. The fascinating wildlife in the country includes elephants, rhinoceros, tigers, leopards, tapirs, sun bears, orangutans and gibbons.

The designated Permanent Forest Estate covers 3.8 million hectares of virgin jungle, and more than 1.49 million hectares of conservation area. Peninsular Malaysia’s great Taman Negara National Park is one of the world’s oldest tropical rainforests. Taman Negara National Park straddles the borders of Kelantan, Terengganu and Pahang, the latter part being the most visited. Endau-Rompin, which covers the boundary between Johor and Pahang, boasts many unique and endemic varieties of plants that were discovered within the centuries-old forest. These include the magnificent fan palm, climbing bamboo and the slender stemmed walking stick palm.

Moths and butterflies of every kind, and deer and wild boar can be found in this lowland forest, one of the few remaining in Peninsular Malaysia. On the Borneo side of Malaysia, Gunung Mulu National Park in North Sarawak is one of the state’s most popular sites. It boasts an extensive limestone cave system—including the largest cave chamber in the world, the Sarawak Chamber—and is home to the second highest mountain peak in Sarawak as well as many plants and animal species. Kinabalu Park has the Poring Hot Springs, and Mt Kinabalu, the highest mountain in Southeast Asia.

Another cave site, Niah National Park is one of the largest limestone caves in the world. On the wild side, Sepilok Orangutan Sanctuary is set in a virgin equatorial rainforest and has rare plants, animals and birds.

The sights
Kuala Lumpur (KL) delights visitors with its colonial architecture, which still manages to stand out against the shining office towers and multi-lane highways. Further south, waterfront developments are changing the face of Malacca (Melaka), Malaysia’s oldest town.

The island of Penang, the oldest British settlement in Malaysia, is one of the country’s top tourist attractions. It is renown for its beach resorts and the historical George Town, noted for its cuisine. Penang Hill offers a spectacular view of the island, and is particularly popular at dusk.

Langkawi’s archipelago offers stunning beaches and resorts, as well as myths and legends. There are also many spectacular mainland beaches such as Cherating in Pahang, where you can watch for turtles. Over on the east in Sabah, Mt Kinabalu, the Turtle Islands, Sipadan and the national parks are the main attractions. Sarawak’s capital city is ideal for travellers, with
landscaped parks and historic buildings.

**Where to stay**
There are plenty of hotels, condos and apartments in Malaysia. There is plenty of budget accommodation such as traditional Chinese hotels and dormitory-style guesthouses that can be found in most cities. The homestay concept is still relatively new, but is a great way to learn first hand the Malaysian way of life.

**Getting around**
Taxis are very common in Malaysia, and although meters are often used, it is always helpful to agree on a price beforehand. For trips to airports and railway stations, purchase coupons at the taxi counter stationed at both places.

Several car rental agencies offer self-drive and chauffeur-driven cars. The national KTM train runs from Kuala Lumpur to Padang Besar in the north, Singapore in the south, and up to Tumpat on the east coast. Buses are fast and economical, and seats can be reserved fairly easily.

**Food and entertainment**
The food in Malaysia is nothing short of fantastic. There is a choice of Chinese, Malay, Indian, Indonesian, Japanese, Thai, Korean and Western. Nyonya cuisine is probably the most famous of these fusions and is a blend of Chinese ingredients and Malay spices. Malay food uses seafood, meat, coconut and other indigenous fruits with rice.

Street stalls or hawkers are where the best local cuisines can be enjoyed cheaply. The theatrical ambience of these hawkers is like no other, with continuous demonstrations of wok tossing, teh tarik (tea pulling), the artful skill of flipping rots (Indian bread), and barbecuing of satay sticks.

As a Muslim nation, there are restaurants offering halal food prepared in religiously approved conditions. Malaysia is famous for its wide variety of tropical fruits, including rambutans, mangosteens, jackfruit and durians.

Sights of roadside vendors selling fruits and other snacks are common and the prices are usually cheaper than in supermarkets, especially when the special skill of bargaining is employed.

Although Malaysia is a Muslim country alcohol is widely available in bars and nightclubs, especially in capital cities and tourist areas. Nightlife in Malaysia is anything but boring. Kuala Lumpur offers a wide choice of nightspots with entertainment ranging from cultural shows to Western-style bars and discos. Hot spots include Petaling Street, Jalan Alor, the Asian Heritage Row, Bangsar and many neighbouring suburbs.
Activities
For those without much time in Kuala Lumpur, a city tour on the Hop-On Hop-Off bus is a great way to see the highlights. The huge Batu Caves will give tourists an unforgettable cultural experience. Golfing is on offer at 200 courses in diverse settings such as hill resorts, islands, beaches, cities, towns and off the beaten track.

The diving and snorkelling off Tioman Island and Redang Island is superb, both islands boast underwater caves and incredible coral reefs. Sipadan Island, off the coast of Sabah, is said to have some of the best diving in the world.

Trekking through the jungle trails of Taman Negara Park, visitors may see elephants, tigers, panthers and rhinos, although sightings are rare. A hike up Mount Kinabalu in Sabah is amazing as tourists can watch the sunrise from beneath the clouds that surround the peak.

Shopping
Kuala Lumpur is very good value, with a variety of fashionable products and handicrafts available from shopping complexes, department stores, boutiques and markets. The Central Market in Chinatown is a centre for handicrafts, antiques and art. Here visitors can employ their bargaining skills to get the best prices on 'branded' merchandise. There is also the Chow Kit Market, a Malay market with many roadside vendors lining Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman (also known as Jalan TAR).

On Saturday nights, some streets are closed to traffic and host lively night markets. Visitors should be prepared to negotiate a good price and go home with a bargain!

Currency
The Malaysian Ringgit is usually written as RM. Tipping is not expected although much appreciated.

Climate
Temperatures range from 21°C to 32°C with cooler temperatures in the hills, particularly during the evenings.

The east coast, Sabah and Sarawak have heavy rainfalls during November to February. The west coast of the peninsula is wet from April to October.

Cool, lightweight summer clothing is best with medium-weight woollens at night in the cooler highland areas.

Entry requirements
All visitors need a valid passport/travel document with minimum validity of six months beyond the period of intended stay. Visa requirements vary for different countries so be sure to check.
SAMA-SAMA HOTELS

This esteemed airport hotel brand offers convenience and comfort with a host of modern comforts and facilities.

Sama-Sama Hotel
Located adjacent to the KL International Airport’s main terminal building, the award-winning Sama-Sama Hotel offers both business and leisure travellers a range of accommodation from deluxe rooms, suites and family rooms. Amenities include a LCD television, telephone with data/fax port and voicemail, an in-room safe, coffee and tea making facilities and a minibar/refrigerator. Premier floor guests can enjoy a host of complimentary benefits including exclusive use of the premier lounge.

A 24-hour complimentary buggy service is available to and from the airport via the covered skybridge and is only 28 minutes to Kuala Lumpur city centre via the KLIA express train. Guests are spoiled for choice with three restaurants offering traditional Asian delights or Western favourites. Drop by the 24-hour health club for a workout, laps in the swimming pool or relax with a rejuvenating massage at the spa. The five-star hotel is the ideal location to host an international event with extensive, world-class meeting and event facilities. The hotel also offers an airport fast track service with a lounge located at the level five departure hall of KL International Airport where guests can purchase a voucher to avoid the long queue and take advantage of the dedicated Immigration and Custom lanes for swift clearance.

Sama-Sama Express
Strategically located inside the satellite building of KL International Airport, Sama-Sama Express located next to Gate C5, provides 80 guestrooms and suites to travellers passing through the KL International Airport. Modern, quiet, and comfortable, this airside transit hotel offers exceptional hospitality and a relaxing escape from the bustle of one of the world’s largest airports. Free Wi-Fi is available throughout and both guests and visitors can take advantage of round-the-clock business facilities.

Sama-Sama Express klia2
Located inside the klia2, the Sama-Sama Express klia2 allows guests the convenience of checking into the hotel without clearing Malaysian customs and immigration if they are on layover between flights. The hotel features 70 spacious guestrooms with modern amenities including coffee and tea making facilities, and Wi-Fi internet access. Check out the contemporary and exclusive Sama-Sama Express lounge while you wait in comfort for your next flight. The lounge offers a range of delicious food and refreshments, as well as shower facilities and reading materials, complimentary Wi-Fi and internet facilities.
The archipelago of 99 islands that make up Langkawi almost matches Singapore in land size and boasts modern amenities and infrastructure, while still retaining its traditional culture. Shrouded in myths about ogres, gigantic birds, warriors, fairy princesses, battles and romance, it's a natural paradise unmatched anywhere else in Southeast Asia. Its geological history dates back 500 million years and the islands contain many unique rock formations including numerous caves with stunning stalactites and stalagmites. The outstanding geological landscape and features of Langkawi led to its classification as the first Geopark, not only in Malaysia, but Southeast Asia by UNESCO, with the aim of preserving and maintaining its unique attributes through conservation and ecotourism.

Dayang Bunting dates back some 280 million years and it is this kind of history that makes Langkawi so spectacular. Nestled among Langkawi's mist covered hills, limestone outcrops and lush forests are awe-inspiring waterfalls, like those of Telaga Tujuh, as well as mysterious caves and a rich diversity of flora and fauna.

Those looking for a holiday with a difference might try jungle trekking or taking a boat trip up the rivers and around the many islands. Kuah, located on the southeastern side of Pulau Langkawi, is the capital and entry point to the islands by ferry. Kuah is a thriving centre of modern hotels and, because of its duty free status, a shoppers' haven. A visit to the Teluk Burau Oriental Village is recommended. Designed as a new concept in resort shopping, more than 30 specialty outlets offer a diverse variety and range of brands and products which can often be purchased very cheaply, from alcohol and perfume to electrical goods and tobacco. Langkawi International Fashion Zone (LIFZ) is a prominent international factory outlet showcasing many international fashion brands, like Gucci, Versace and Hugo Boss.

Beaches such as those of Pantai Cenang on the west coast and Pantai Kok on the opposite side of the island offer relaxation while the clear, emerald waters around the islands are ideal for watersports and recreation.

Nightlife is a special experience in Langkawi, as some of the bars are located right on the beach. Most popular nightclubs are located at the bigger resorts, however most of the local bars offer live music and performances as entertainment.

There is a wide choice of dining options, from local fare to Western and Eastern gourmet cuisines with Asian spices.
This award-winning hotel in Langkawi is a reflection of a timeless luxury vacation that is enveloped by the immaculate splendour of sandy beaches, a marina and lush tropical hills.

Voted number one hotel and luxury hotel in Malaysia for three consecutive years since 2015 on TripAdvisor, The Danna Langkawi embraces the architectural beauty from the colonial era. Be inspired by the captivating views and surrender yourself to a rejuvenating haven.

Elegant rooms with floor-to-ceiling windows and wooden floors feature free Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs, balconies, four-poster beds, and tea and coffee making facilities. Refined suites add details like a separate living room, jacuzzi, sea views and private plunge pool.

The addition of luxurious private villas will be complete by the end of 2017. Villas will come equipped with a living room, a courtyard, private spa therapy room and lap pool which renders these villas in a class of their own.

The Danna Langkawi presents an array of palatable temptations that satisfy discerning taste buds. Straits & Co is a bright and cosy coffee shop influenced by Straits settlement elements with rattan furniture, classy marble top and colourful floral motif tiles. The Terrace offers authentic Italian specialties and the coffee shop serves local favourites, traditional snacks and Western delicacies.

The Verandah is a lounge with high ceilings, magnificent chandeliers and towering pillars reminiscent of a gone by era. The open plan living area and the cigar bar is the perfect setting to enjoy cocktails and the intimate lounge charms its guests with its modishness. Planter’s offers gourmet delights amidst opulent furnishings. Located on the ground floor, overlooking the infinity swimming pool and the sandy beach, the restaurant offers selections of Mediterranean cuisine.

Walking through the courtyard towards the beach, is the largest three-tiered infinity pool on the island. A pampering treatment awaits at the spa, enjoy nature walks or even yachting. Guests who book directly with the hotel will be rewarded MYR90 credits daily to be utilised for food and beverage or at the spa.

Conveniently located on Telaga Harbour along Kok Beach, The Danna Langkawi is easily accessible to various attractions and outdoor activities. Telaga Harbour was built to resemble a Mediterranean-style harbour town on the French Riviera and boasts a number of restaurants, bistros and stores. The International Airport is only 15 minutes away.
CASA DEL MAR

Make yourself at home at this Mediterranean-style beachside haven with the picturesque Cenang Beach right at your doorstep.

Your home by the sea, Casa del Mar is perfect for a private and romantic retreat. There are 34 beautifully appointed suites designed for the utmost comfort and attentive, friendly staff are always pleased to help with any request you may have.

With ample space, the Seaview Room is located on the upper floor with private balconies overlooking the ocean. Directly overlooking the pool and the beach, the Seaview Studio Suite offers a sliding picture window opening onto a private courtyard furnished with a sofa bed, armchairs and a drink table.

With direct access to the beach, the Beachfront Studio Suite makes each morning perfect picture. Rise to the sound of crashing waves and a view of infinite turquoise. The Seaview Junior Suite offers two sea-facing balconies furnished with chairs, a drink table and hammock. Relax in style with a living area that is furnished with a chaise lounge and separate seating area. The Seaview Deluxe Suite lets you relax in style with a luxurious 70 square metres of room and living space.

The refurbished rooms feature additional storage space, timber flooring with sliding floor-to-ceiling windows that open onto a large balcony revealing spectacular sea views. The parqueted bedroom has the luxury of a dressing area including dressing table, sofa and iPod docking station. A spacious bathroom includes a double vanity.

An exceptional beach dining experience awaits. Linger over lunch or dine under the stars and delight your tastebuds with delectable menus, whether it’s Western cuisine or authentic local fare. Over at the Pool Bar, enjoy a comprehensive beverage menu including an extensive wine and cocktail list.

Immerse yourself in the tranquility of Satkara spa. Borrowing from ancient Malaysian traditions, Sarkara Spa combines East and West for the ultimate pampering.

A UNESCO World Geopark site, Langkawi is a tranquil destination with a tropical beach setting at your doorstep and a group of 99 islands waiting to be explored. Cruise the open sea and become aquatinted with the pristine waters of Langkawi. Head out for a day of discovery and revel in all that mother nature has to offer besides the sun, sand and sea.
CASA DEL RIO, MELAKA

Right by the idyllic Melaka River, offering sweeping views of the straights, immerse yourself in the old world charms of this colonial city at Casa del Rio.

This boutique hotel showcases the variety of cultural influences since the 14th century with Portuguese, Arabic and Mediterranean touches evident in its architectural design. Whilst blending with its historical surroundings, it also caters to the 21st century traveller with world-class facilities and professional, personalised services.

Opulent rooms and suites provide luxurious at-home comfort with plush bedding, private balconies and turn-down service to welcome you home. A range of categories cater to families, friends and couples alike. You will be treated to luxurious comfort in fully furnished rooms and suites. The walls are stylishly decorated with pieces of replica art and carved wood panels and the private balconies overlooks either the central courtyard Lago or the idyllic Melaka River.

The exquisite marble lined bathrooms feature a separate glass shower cubicle and a tub/bath big enough for two people. Sliding bathroom shutters close for privacy or open to a view of the bedroom, TV and beyond through the balcony doors. Suites offer a separate dining area, living room and a guest bedroom.

The timber floored bedrooms are furnished with pocket sprung beds, a flat screen television, CD, DVD player, iPod player and dock, a writing desk with international plug points, Wi-Fi and LAN cable for free high-speed internet access. Other room facilities include variable temperature control, electronic security-key entry, IDD telephones, in-room electronic safe, hair dryer, iron with ironing board and a full length mirror.

Casa del Rio brings you a variety of contemporary and classic dining options using only the freshest produce. Bask your afternoon away in the infinity pool with a cocktail or freshly squeezed juice. Unwind with a sundown beer and tapas, indulge in opulent grill room dining, or a Saturday night buffet dinner.

Pamper yourself with a Sarkara Spa experience for pure relaxation and return to wholeness as you let your mind and body be invigorated with one of the spa’s signature treatments.

An array of well appointed function rooms and audio visual equipment is available for events, meetings and conferences. Choose from riverside dining, an outdoor marquee with a Mediterranean theme or perhaps a ballroom dinner. Whether a corporate event or private function let Casa del Rio weave those dreams into reality.
Perak is a state in the northwest of Peninsular Malaysia.

Its capital city, Ipoh, with a population of about half a million, is known for its British colonial landmarks including a baroque railway station. While tin mines were major contributors to the economy until recent times, visitors enjoy exploring the limestone mountains and caves that dot the region. Some of these beautiful caves can be reached by boat or foot making it incredibly convenient for visitors to explore them.

If you enjoy food, Perak will not disappoint. Here you can enjoy many cuisines derived from the multiple ethnic groups that inhabit the region. There are restaurants along nearly every street and fresh seafood plentiful.

Other places of interest include Sam Poh Tong, a huge Buddhist cave temple decorated with wall paintings. On the Kampar River sits the town of Gopeng that is the ideal base for water rafting activities. The resort island of Pulau Pangkor, off the west coast, is approximately 85 kilometres from Ipoh and features forested hills and the remains of a 17th-century Dutch fort. This popular island has beautiful, uncrowded beaches and is dotted with small fishing villages. Its abundance of seafood restaurants also makes it a great place to visit.
Situated on the beautiful island of Borneo, Sabah is one of the thirteen states of Malaysia.

It is the second largest state in Malaysia and shares the island of Borneo with Sarawak, Brunei, and Indonesian Kalimantan.

Sabah is richly blessed with nature’s diversity, unique cultures, fun adventures, beautiful beaches, and fantastic cuisines for the adventurous taste buds.

From the world’s largest flower, the rafflesia, to one of the highest mountains in Southeast Asia, Mount Kinabalu, and one of the world’s top dive sites, Sipadan Island, Sabah has it all. Not only will you be amazed by the places to see and things to do here, you will also be treated with unique Sabahan hospitality. Explore the unique culture and tradition of Sabah and get ready to experience memories that will last a lifetime.

Traditionally, Sabah’s economy was lumber dependent. However, with the increasing depletion of natural forests as well as ecological efforts to conserve the rainforest, palm oil has proven to be a more sustainable resource. Sabah also exports other agricultural products including rubber, cocoa, vegetables and seafood. Tourism, particularly eco-tourism, is presently the second largest contributor to the economy.

In the downtown area, you can get around quite easily on foot between hotels, restaurants, tour operators, markets, and the tourism office. For longer trips, taxis are readily available. Just 24 kilometres from Tawau town is Tawau Hills Park with sprawling grounds, lush green foliage and a sparkling river. It is a popular destination for visitors who want to experience nature at its best. Enjoy the rich vegetation of the park that changes as the altitude increases. There are plenty of hiking trails with some leading to a hot spring area and waterfalls.

For a rich, cultural experience visit the Linangkit Cultural Village in Tuaran and meet the Lotud people, one of the 32 diverse ethnic groups in Sabah. Situated in Kampung Selupoh, approximately an hour’s drive away from the heart of Kota Kinabalu, the Linangkit Cultural village offers an in-depth look into the social and cultural heritage of the Lotud people.

The choice of accommodations in Sabah is endless. Sabah offers five-star resorts with the latest amenities and facilities to comfortable lodgings for the budget conscious. They all feature Sabah’s common aspect of warm hospitality. Signature championship golf courses surrounded by serene vistas, a world-class marina for sailing enthusiasts, and endless island accommodations are just few reasons that will ensure that every moment of your holiday is lively and fun filled.
SUTERA HARBOUR RESORT

Indulge your senses at Sutra Harbour Resort.

Nestled on the shores of the South China Sea with the formidable Mt Kinabalu in the background, the resort is only five minutes from the city centre, ten minutes from the Kota Kinabalu International Airport and a 15-minute boat ride to the tropical islands of Tunku Abdul Rahman Marine Park.

The integrated resort sits on 384 acres, and includes two five-star hotels. The Pacific Sutera Hotel and The Magellan Sutera Resort both offer an exquisite selection of modern luxury amenities. The Pacific Sutera Hotel epitomises luxury with its grand entrance, high ceilinged lobby lounge, panoramic views of the sea and 500 immaculately appointed rooms and suites with contemporary décor. The two uppermost floors of the hotel are home to the Pacific Club rooms with breathtaking aerial views of the entire resort. Pacific Club guests enjoy a wide range of facilities including complimentary continental breakfast and evening cocktails at the Pacific Club Lounge.

No less impressive is The Magellan Sutera Resort. The grand entrance is a majestic longhouse-style lobby, which is an architectural tribute to the Rungus natives of Sabah. The 456 guestrooms are lavishly decorated and offer an exquisite selection of luxurious amenities. Most feature private balconies with spectacular views where guests can take full advantage of the beautiful natural setting. The Magellan Club offers guests exclusive personalised butler and reception services and serves complimentary breakfast and evening cocktails in its private lounge.

As Malaysia’s foremost premier integrated property, Sutera Harbour Resort is the only destination in Kota Kinabalu that provides a spectacular array of activities and facilities including a 27-hole championship designer golf course, 104-berth state-of-the-art marina, 15 dining outlets and a host of recreational facilities.

Guests can expect an ultimate pampering experience at the resort’s spas, Mandara spa at the Magellan Sutera Resort and Chavana spa at The Pacific Sutera Hotel. Renowned for their excellent service and finesse, both spas offer exquisite body therapies. The treatments, designed to refresh and rejuvenate, use natural herbs, flowers, and spices native to the area. Choose to be pampered in beautifully decorated rooms or under the open-air pavilion by the beach.
The 1190 low-lying coral islands that make up the Maldives are so small that dry land makes up one percent of the country’s total territory. The 26 coral atoll nation is situated southwest of the southern tip of India and Sri Lanka in the Indian Ocean, extending across the equator in a north-south strip.

Capital and major centres
Malé is a small, quaint capital city and the hub of the Malé Atoll. This chain, comprising the old North and South Malé Atolls, stretches for more than 120 kilometres from north to south, but only 10 of its islands are inhabited; some used for specific purposes. For instance, Funadhoo is an island where oil is stored; Thulusdhoo has two factories, Dhiffushi is a fishing island and Kuda Bandos is a picnic island for the general public.

Malé is tiny when compared to other capital cities, however, it houses one third of the total population of the Maldives. Malé is different to the other atolls in the archipelago with its high-rise buildings, paved streets and small parks dotted about the city. Seawalls surround Malé and there are no beaches although an artificially landscaped beach now stretches to the new harbour in the southwest. To the west is the Alifu or Ari Atoll, in the north is the large island of Thoddu, and to the south of Alifu Atoll is the Faafu Atoll and the island of Nilandhoo. In the Laamu Atoll are Isdhoo and Gadhdhoo, both of which feature impressive ruins.

The Huvadhu Atoll is the largest true atoll formation in the world, with a huge lagoon and in the Gnaviyani Atoll is Fuamulaku, one of the most fertile areas in the Maldives. Meedhoo is located in the southernmost atoll of Seenu and is one of the rarest naturally protected atolls in the entire archipelago.

The people
The inhabitants of the Maldives are thought to have descended from both Southern India’s Dravidians and Aryans from India and Ceylon. Dhivehi, the national language, is Indo-Aryan in origin and found only in the Maldives. A contemporary Dhivehi culture is strong, despite many foreign influences, which range from Hindi movies and oriental martial arts, to Western music and Muslim fundamentalism.

It has been an Islamic nation since 1153 AD when the king converted the entire country from Buddhism. The religion is a delicate blend of traditional and modern ideals, with women having more freedom than in other Muslim countries. English is widely spoken in Malé, the capital, and on all the resort islands, and on Seenu, or Addu Atoll, where a British air base was formerly located.

Nature
The brilliantly coloured coral reefs result in the Maldivian seascape being among the most beautiful in the world. Since natural fauna is sparse, the most exciting wildlife is found under the water.

If you visit the Maldives, make sure you grab a mask and snorkel so that you can discover amazing corals and fish such as butterfly fish, angel fish, parrot fish, rock cod, unicorn fish, trumpet fish and bluestripe snapper. Other marine life includes molluscs, clams and crabs while sharks, stingrays, manta rays,
turtles and dolphins may also be spotted. While the larger, wetter islands have small areas of rainforest, for the most part plant life is limited. The most common plants include pandanus, banana, mangroves, breadfruit trees, banyans, tropical vines and coconut palms; and the main crops are sweet potatoes, yams, taro, millet and watermelon, citrus fruits and pineapples.

Tropical flowers are found in abundance and grow either in the wild or are cultivated in gardens. There are 100 species of birds, most of them migratory. Other fauna includes giant fruit bats and tree shrews, lizards, skinks, rhinoceros beetles, paper wasps and colourful butterflies.

The sights
The capital city of Malé is only about two kilometres long and one kilometre wide but is neatly packed with buildings, roads and public spaces. The mosques, markets and small streets give it a charm of its own.

The National Museum houses exhibits of the sultans’ belongings and some archaeological discoveries, while the nearby Sultan Park is a pleasant place for a stroll. The imposing white three-storey Islamic Centre & Grand Friday Mosque holds more than 5000 worshippers and dominates the city’s skyline. The oldest of the 20-plus mosques in Malé is the Hukuru Miskiiy, famed for its intricate stone carvings. Friday Mosque on Isdhoo is more than three centuries old and features lacquered supports, flowing calligraphy and finely carved rafters. Gadhdhoo is home to one of the Maldives’ most impressive ruins, from which rises an enormous stupenda, formerly a huge, white limestone pyramid.

The solitary and exceptionally fertile island of Fuamulaku produces vegetables and fruits such as mangoes, oranges and pineapples, which are not grown anywhere else in the country. Baa Atoll is famous for its handicrafts, which include lacquer work and finely woven cotton felis (traditional sarongs).

Where to stay
The wide variety of accommodation ranges from island resorts and hotels to modern, motel-style rooms and guesthouses, with more on offer in the high-end range. Hotel rates usually include full board. There are also yachts and yacht-dhonis, specially converted Maldivian vessels licensed to sleep guests. Developed on uninhabited islands, some exclusive hotels accommodate a limited number of guests while some cater more or less exclusively to certain nationalities, notably Italian, German, French and Japanese visitors.

Some resorts have better access to specific dive sites, local villages, or Malé than others and while all offer scuba diving, some are known as hardcore divers’ destinations. Bungalows equipped with modern conveniences and en suite facilities offer magnificent views.

Getting around
Transfers between the islands are by either dhoni (local boats), speedboat or seaplane. Transfers for visitors with confirmed reservations in the Maldives are arranged by the host. Taxis,
private cars, motorcycles and bicycles are used for transport on the larger islands including Malé and Addu Atoll. There are two companies operating regular seaplane services in the Maldives. Tourism is strictly regulated, and independent travel is discouraged as it is seen as disruptive to traditional island communities. Cruising across all atolls is now allowed with a permit.

Food and entertainment
Almost everything needs to be imported in the Maldives, except for fish, coconut and some fruit such as watermelon and banana. Fish and rice are the staple foods of Maldivians, with meat and chicken eaten only on special occasions. While there are strict local laws against the consumption of alcohol, liquor is freely available at the resorts. The local brew, raa, is a sweet liquid from the crown of the palm trunk. Maldivian men enjoy ‘short eats’ (small snacks) in the many small teahouses. Nightlife in Malé is confined to these teahouses and a few Western-style restaurants. Various resorts offer weekly dances with live music from local musicians and tourists are encouraged to hire boats and attend the dances on other islands.

Activities
Seenu, the ‘second city’ of the Maldives, is the best base from which to visit traditional Maldivian island communities, while Gan is linked by causeways to the adjacent islands and a bicycle is the easiest way to get around and see village life. For those keen to learn to dive, all resort islands have schools run by fully qualified instructors, while some offer training up to professional diver level. The warm lagoon has coral gardens, turtles, shells, crustaceans and schools of brilliantly coloured fish. Trips in dhonis visit some of the best fishing grounds in the world. Night fishing expeditions for snapper and barracuda or dawn excursions seeking tuna, dolphin, fish and rainbow runners are excellent. Other pursuits include cruising from atoll to atoll in boats with bunk beds or private cabins, yachting with professional crews, waterskiing, windsurfing, parasailing, and beach volleyball.

Shopping
Malé is the best place in the Maldives for shopping, and has minimum duty on most items. Best buys include reed mats and lacquered wooden boxes, woven sarongs called ‘felis’ in wide black and white stripes, Chinese ceramics, electronic items and souvenirs such as coral rings and sea shells.

Climate
It is warm and tropical throughout the year with a cooling sea breeze. The average daily temperature is between 25°C and 32°C.

What to wear
Light, informal cotton and linen clothing is recommended. Most resorts do not enforce any dress regulations. In Malé visitors must wear appropriate attire and cover up.

Currency
The currency is Maldivian Rufiyaa. Credit cards are accepted at resorts, as well as with travellers cheques and tipping is not discouraged.
Maldives - where dreams are made to last forever.

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FURAVERI ISLAND RESORT & SPA

Furaveri Island Resort & Spa prides itself on offering guests a true Maldivian experience with a taste of local culture combined with the ultimate in luxury and relaxation.

Located in the exotic Raa Atoll, this new luxury resort boasts its own white sandy beaches, crystal clear turquoise waters, two house reefs and tropical, lush vegetation making it a tranquil haven in a Maldivian paradise. The island is accessible by a scenic 30-45 minute seaplane transfer which offers a stunning view of the pearls of the Indian Ocean.

A true Maldivian experience
For travellers seeking a gateway to experience Maldivian life at its purest, the award-winning Furaveri is in perfect sync with its core trinity of modern hospitality, the Maldivian culture, and preserving its nature. Local gourmet delicacies in an ambience filled with Boduberu dance and songs in traditional costume while staying in the villas shaped like traditional Maldivian boat houses, several activities showcasing Maldivian history and culture and hundreds of associates dedicated for the cause of giving the ultimate Maldivian hospitality. This is the ongoing journey for Furaveri Island resort to become the most authentic Maldivian resort in Maldives.

Within its first year of operation, Furaveri was awarded two esteemed accolades by Destination Weddings & Honeymoons Abroad magazine. In the annual Gold Awards, the resort was honoured with ‘Best Honeymoon Resort for Indian Ocean 2016’, as well as the ultimate ‘Best Worldwide Honeymoon Resort 2016’.

Five-star luxury
The 107 luxury villas have been designed with local influences to reflect the authentic Maldivian culture. They offer the ultimate in five-star accommodation with spacious interiors and outside wooden deck areas.

Nestled in the lush gardens of tropical vegetation and a few steps away from the beach, the Garden Villas are elegantly designed and generously spacious with 110 square metres featuring a large private sundeck, private tropical garden with a semi-open bathroom.

The Beach Villas with 125 square metres of space are set directly on the powdery white beach and surrounded by lush greenery. Facing the sun-rise side of the island, the villas offer a large veranda with sun loungers and a sala with a private dining area to enjoy a stunning view of the crystal waters. The semi-open bathroom is completed with shower, a freestanding bathtub, twin vanities and an outdoor rainfall shower.

Inspired by the design of the traditional Maldivian fishing boat, the Dhoni, the luxurious Dhoni Pool Villas offer a tastefully decorated bedroom with seating area and an amazing view out to a
wooden veranda with a six-metre private pool overlooking the pristine beach. The 155 square metre Beach Pool Villa faces the turquoise lagoon, the bedroom presents an impressive view out to the heart of your villa: a private six-metre pool for moments of pure bliss. The large outdoor area is complemented with a wooden sun deck, a sala with private dining area and comfortable sun loungers.

The magnificent Water Villas are built over the sparkling lagoon and close to the house reef with its incredible marine life. Cosy, warm and tastefully decorated, the water villas feature a spacious living room and bathroom. The sea-facing wall opens out onto your own wooden veranda with a private dining area, daybed, sun loungers and steps leading directly into the clear waters of the Indian Ocean. The bathroom is completed with twin vanities, an indoor rainfall shower and freestanding bath tub with a glass front leading to the sun deck.

The 212 square metre two-bedroom Overwater Pool Suite boasts two bedrooms with seating area, and a living room with private dining area. Enjoy an uninterrupted view out to your large private infinity pool set on an oversized sun deck and completed with day beds, sun loungers and wooden stairs for into the sea.

Two restaurants offer local and international cuisine using the freshest ingredients and daily catches. There is a variety of evening entertainment, and the resort’s Destination Dining concept allows guests to enjoy private, customised dining experiences in secluded locations around the island.

The Spa is a holistic sanctuary set in lush greenery and offers a variety of wellness treatments to renew energy and restore harmony.

Recreational activities and entertainment are abundant. Maldivian Cultural events include a traditional Maldivian song and dance performance called ‘Boduberu’ and events such as movie nights on the beach, live music, DJ, and karaoke nights are also a favourite.

Water lovers can choose from the many activities available at the resort including diving, snorkelling, kayaking, jet skiing or water skiing. Take a refreshing dip in one of the outdoor swimming pools or the clear blue sea. Two captivating reefs surround the island, where one can marvel at the multi-coloured corals and observe the diverse marine life.
Amidst the exotic turquoise hues of South Malé Atoll lies the tranquil island of Maadhoo; home to the brand new Lifestyle Luxury Resort - OZEN by Atmosphere at Maadhoo.

Just 35 kilometres from Malé International Airport, the resort is accessible by a 45-minute luxury speedboat ride. The transfers are available 24 hours a day.

Luxury lifestyle at its best
At OZEN, all living spaces are created with utmost luxury and comfort in mind, whilst incorporating a seamless fusion of modern design, nature and vibrancy. The contemporary design and overall ambience of OZEN complements the naturally blessed surroundings of Maadhoo island.

Spread over an expansive turquoise lagoon, OZEN by Atmosphere at Maadhoo features a selection of beachfront villas, idyllically positioned on a soft, sandy beach. Bright, earthy and homely, the Earth Villas are stunning stand-alone villas with high slanted ceilings and luxurious interiors in warm earthy tones. Each villa has a large outdoor deck and a tropical garden along with a spacious outdoor bathroom featuring a hand-crafted bathtub and a monsoon shower.

Additionally 17 of the Earth Villas come with an eight metre long infinity lap pool overlooking the pristine lagoon while the two-bedroom Earth Family Pool Suites provide a haven for families with vast living spaces.

The 49 overwater villas offer a romantic and mesmeric experience, truly unmatched. Wind Villas curve along the expansive lagoon of the north of the island. These individual over-water villas offer the discerning guest the ultimate over-water living experience. Each villa is infused with fresh and vibrant colours, cosy and warm interiors, a lavish bathroom with a stand-alone, ellipse-shaped bathtub with an uninterrupted view of the horizon. The 24 Wind Villas boast an eight metre long infinity lap pool with fiber optic mood lighting over-looking the pristine lagoon and a guaranteed sunset view.

The luxuriously appointed, three-bedroom OZEN Water Suite is situated at the tip of the pier with amazing unobstructed views. The expansive suite offers a personal gym, maid’s room separate access, a small kitchenette, private bathrooms for every bedroom, and an outdoor dining pavilion with a stunning 35 square metre over-water pool.

Wine, dine and unwind
The main restaurant, The Palms, boasts stunning ocean views and wide open spaces complemented by fresh vibrant interiors and high ceilings. For breakfast, lunch and dinner choose from a selection of international cuisine, sushi platters, live cooking stations, and sumptuous à la carte options. Going back to the Asian culinary roots of Sri Lankan, Indian, Maldivian and Chinese cuisine, The
Traditions offers delightful dishes with fantastic presentation, exemplary cooking techniques married with the finest ingredients to showcase authentic Asian dishes. The specialty seafood underwater restaurant, M6m is open for lunch and dinner and boasts stunning underwater views. Joie de Vivre, the stunning pool bar and pizzeria overlooks the lagoon and offers some of the most beautiful sunset views.

ELENA by Atmosphere is an extensive spa complex with exquisite over-water treatment rooms. Here a team of professional masseurs and therapists offer a wide range of therapies, rituals and other spa services. The contemporary spa complex incorporates various elements from around the world, to create a luxuriously crafted spa experiences for guests.

Atmosphere Aqua Club is the resort’s very own PADI certified dive school and watersports centre. The club consists of a friendly team of multilingual professionals well versed in the field and charters new exhilarating and unique dive locations within the near vicinity on a regular basis. The Atmosphere Aqua Club also offers a wide range of watersports both motorised and non-motorised for you to enjoy in the stunning turquoise lagoon.

Additional resort facilities include a sport and recreation centre featuring a fully equipped state-of-the-art gymnasium with a mesmerising view of the horizon.

OZEN by Atmosphere offers the discerning traveller a uniquely exclusive holiday plan - The Atmosphere INDULGENCE where guests will experience the ultimate hassle-free beach holiday in the Maldives. The luxury all-inclusive plan offers exotic Champagnes, cocktails and wines along with fine dining experiences which also includes a unique Underwater Dining experience at the first underwater restaurant in the Malé Atoll.

The plan also includes luxurious spa therapies from the Elena Spa. The indulgence continues with superior world-class diving adventures at Atmosphere Aqua Club with watersports and snorkelling trips. The OZEN experience encompasses all elements of a luxury holiday experience in the Maldives. No surprises, no shocks, no hidden extras, all included in one price!
KANIFUSHI MALDIVES

Stand-alone Beach villas spreading idyllically along a mesmeric two kilometre long turquoise lagoon, showcasing vast living spaces with accentuating Maldivian interiors, offers a hassle-free five star resort experience with a premium All-inclusive holiday plan – Platinum Plus. Platinum Plus offers a fine collection of premium wines & spirits, a combination of buffet, fine dining & theme night dining options, clubbed with an array of activities ranging from excursions, sunset fishing, snorkelling & non-motorized water sports! ALL INCLUDED in ONE price!

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A PREMIUM ALL-INCLUSIVE HOLIDAY PLAN!

Stand-alone Beach villas spreading idyllically along a mesmeric two kilometre long turquoise lagoon, showcasing vast living spaces with accentuating Maldivian interiors, offers a hassle-free five star resort experience with a premium All-inclusive holiday plan – Platinum Plus. Platinum Plus offers a fine collection of premium wines & spirits, a combination of buffet, fine dining & theme night dining options, clubbed with an array of activities ranging from excursions, sunset fishing, snorkelling & non-motorized water sports! ALL INCLUDED in ONE price!

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ATMOSPHERE-KANIFUSHI.COM
ATMOSPHERE KANIFUSHI MALDIVES

Atmosphere Kanifushi offers a uniquely exclusive Premium All-Inclusive holiday plan - Platinum Plus, enhancing the typical five-star Maldivian resort experience.

Amidst an expansive lagoon of turquoise hues surrounded by a long uninterrupted stretch of pristine white sandy beaches, the resort is accessible via a short, scenic 30-minute sea plane transfer from Malé International Airport.

Luxurious Maldivian touches
The resort’s design reflects a fusion of traditional and modern architecture. The 132 detached villas and suites are all separated by metres of lush tropical vegetation and have direct access to the white sand beach and the beautiful turquoise lagoon. The Sunset Beach Villas offer direct beach access from their large open air veranda. Exclusively designed for guests holidaying with families, Sunset Family Villas feature two interconnecting Beach Villas with a larger combination of indoor and outdoor space, as well as conveniently being located closer to the main restaurant, sport’s complex and kid’s club. Lavish and sprawling Sunset Junior Suites showcase natural wood and stone flooring, larger living spaces, open air bathrooms and private outdoor areas with direct access to the beach. With expansive outdoor private areas, the signature Sunset Pool Villas are exclusively located at the northern-most tip of the island overlooking the vast azure lagoon of Kanifushi Island. They include a spacious veranda, and boast a 30 square metre private pool. Both Junior Suites and pool Villas come with additional services including direct check in to villa, a welcome bottle of Champagne, dedicated butler and buggy service.

Platinum Plus
The uniquely exclusive, premium all-inclusive holiday plan, Platinum Plus, includes all meals and a variety of snack and finger foods available during the day and evenings. Enjoy premium brands of alcohol and beer, over 80 labels of premium wines from around the world, liqueurs, unlimited cocktails, beverages, and a selection of tea and coffee. Guests will also enjoy a range of activities as part of the plan, this includes access to the sports and recreation centre; flood lit tennis court, a fully equipped gymnasium, a complimentary selection of non-motorised watersports and unlimited snorkelling excursions. Other services include an in-villa minibar stocked twice a day with beer, wine, soft drinks and a selection of snacks.

Atmosphere Kanifushi boasts numerous food outlets each with its individual vibe and atmosphere. The main restaurant, The Spice, serves a wide variety of quality cuisine, buffet style including action stations and a grill. The Liquid, overlooking the sea, offers an array of exotic cocktails, beverages and a wide selection of international wines, and hosts many theme nights, special disco nights and live performances throughout.
the year. Alternatively, the aptly named Sunset Bar offers the perfect vantage to take in a gorgeous Maldivian sunset. In the evening this venue features a fine dining experience with specialty fusion cooking, showcasing the best of Asian and Mediterranean cuisine. A pure Vegetarian restaurant, a first in the Maldives, serves delightful vegetarian cuisine from the Mediterranean, Arabic, Indian regions along with a special menu specifically for Jain cuisine. For an authentic Teppanyaki experience, head to Teppanyaki Grill. Here guests share a table surrounding a large hot plate, where a theatrical chef will whisk, twirl, juggle, flip and flame raw ingredients into a delectable dinner.

Guests have a wide selection of daily and weekly activities organised at the sports and recreation centre. From fitness to adventure, social activities to competitive sports, are available to all guests as part of the Platinum Plus holiday plan. Two pools include an adults only pool at the Sunset Bar.

**Underwater allure**

The resort’s PADI licensed dive centre is run by a multilingual team of professionals. Several popular dive sites are close by and there are also a variety of motorised and non-motorised activities for guests to choose from. Adventure and cultural excursions take place throughout the week including a picnic on uninhabited island, and visits to local community islands to learn about the local people and their history. As with every atoll in the Maldives, Lhaviyani Atoll has its own unique variety of marine inhabitants and reef formations. As part of the Platinum Plus holiday plan, Atmosphere Kanifushi has put together a selection of options alternated throughout the week to provide daily snorkelling excursions showcasing some of the best spots in the region.

Atmosphere Kanifushi offers a daily activity schedule for children. The team at the kids club offers fun, adventurous activities and learning experiences for children to enjoy. Babysitting services are also available at a charge for children under four years of age.

**A sanctuary for tranquility**

Indulge in a holistic, calming experience at Akiri Spa by Mandara. Amidst lush landscaped gardens and views of the eastern coast of the island, the spa offers a choice of luxurious health and beauty treatments including Ayurveda therapy, with professional consultation to balance body and mind. The spa also has a sauna, steam room, jacuzzi and includes a special hair and beauty salon within the complex.
PARK HYATT MALDIVES HADAHAA

A place of undisturbed natural beauty and privacy, Park Hyatt Maldives Hadahaa lies at the heart of North Huvadhoo.

This luxury Maldives resort provides a seamless integration of environment, culture and modern design. Surrounded by the deep waters of one of the largest natural atolls in the world, the resort reflects the unspoiled, authentic environment of the Maldives.

Featuring only 50 villas, on land and over water, they are designed with the utmost comfort and luxury in mind, whether nestled within the island's tropical foliage, only steps from the ocean, or elevated above the resort's stunning coral reef.

Gastronomes are spoiled for choice at all-day venue, The Dining Room and romantic beachside eatery, The Island Grill, with both offering international and regionally inspired dishes in sophisticated yet casual settings. Sumptuous themed evening buffets range from international flavours to traditional Maldivian cuisine, enriching the private island experience. For those with culinary flair, cooking classes and chef's table experiences can also be arranged upon request. Meanwhile, the contemporary poolside bar and the unique Dhoni are great places to sit back, unwind and enjoy a refreshing drink.

For special occasions enjoy a variety of private dining experiences including Blind, Lagoon, Starlight and Maldivian, each showcasing a unique aspect of the island. And for the ultimate in relaxation, a sumptuous menu of favourites can be served privately in-villa at any time.

The Vidhun Spa, inspired by the traditions and native remedies of the Maldives, offers treatments for individuals and couples and features five private villas, an 80-foot tranquility pool and jacuzzi. Guests can experience the power and history of Maldivian holistic wellness with the healing techniques of Dhivehibey, the islands' indigenous curative heritage.

To ensure that good health truly shines both inside and out, private or shared yoga sessions with the resort’s instructor complete the spa’s wellness techniques.

The experienced team at Park Hyatt Maldives Hadahaa’s five-star PADI Dive and Activity Centre can create a tailored experience to suit all levels. The resort is home to the healthiest house reef in the Maldives and is pure paradise for snorkelling with seemingly limitless varieties of marine life and exquisite coral formations. Local island visits, dolphin spotting, sunset cruises and the one-of-a-kind Cross the Equator trip make for everlasting memories.
Recently re-opened after a full makeover in November 2015, OBLU by Atmosphere at Helengeli offers a contemporary beach holiday experience with a true Maldivian feel.

The resort comprises of 116 villas in various categories, all on an all-inclusive plan. Villas showcase vibrant, trendy and colourful interiors fused with tropical Maldivian design without affecting the natural aesthetics of the lush green island.

Elegant and comfortable Deluxe Beach Villas offer direct beach access to the lagoon and beyond with fresh tropical colour schemes, comfortable interiors and a classic Maldivian touch.

The very exclusive Beach Suites are situated on the sunset side of the island, with a spacious outdoor garden area and deck. Each suite has its own pool and serene views of the ocean with direct beach access. The entry-level, semi detached beach villas are mere steps from the shores of the island, with open-air bathrooms and an outdoor deck.

Offering spectacular sunset views, the exclusive Lagoon Villas are built half on land while the deck opens into the serene turquoise lagoon. A large private plunge pool overlooks the vast Indian Ocean with sun loungers and serene views of the horizon.

OBLU is all about fun, relaxation, and enjoying the beautiful natural surroundings of Maldives. There is plenty to do both on land and underwater.

The OBLU Experience offers guests high quality international cuisine combined with a range of activities including superlative diving and watersports. As part of the all-inclusive package, guests can enjoy a buffet breakfast, lunch and dinner at The Spice restaurant, unlimited beverages, excursions and activities including one sunset fishing trip, one shopping excursion to a nearby inhabited island and non-motorised watersports such as stand-up paddle boards, kayaks and pedalos.

Refresh, relax and rejuvenate at the beautiful Elena Spa with indoor and outdoor treatment rooms and selection of spa services.

Just 50-minutes away by speedboat from Malé International Airport, Helengeli Island has a wonderful reputation worldwide for its exotic house-reef and superb channel diving, just metres from the shoreline. The PADI certified dive school, Atmosphere AQUA Club at OBLU, consists of a team of highly experienced dive professionals with expertise in the local surroundings.
Gili Lankanfushi, Maldives is an intimate coral island in a sparkling lagoon.

Jetties thread across the water out to spacious villa accommodations and everywhere you look, marine life abounds and gleaming waters beckon.

The resort is just a 20-minute speedboat ride from the Velana International Airport. It is set on the private island of Lankanfushi in the North Malé Atoll, one of the 19 atolls that stretch over 800 kilometres through the Indian Ocean and one of the 1190 islands that make up the Maldives.

Your own piece of paradise

Ultimate privacy and seclusion can be discovered at Gili Lankanfushi. With just 45 luxurious over-water villas, including Crusoe Residences and The Private Reserve reached only by boat, you’ll have a piece of paradise all to yourself. Each villa is designed with the utmost attention to detail and built to be environmentally friendly. Your own private water garden and sun deck, as well as a separate shower linked to your bathroom by an open-air walkway allow you to experience living right by the water’s edge.

Located over the water on either side of the jetty, the Villa Suites reflect a harmonious life on the water’s edge. Sit back and relax while looking out to the sea, basking in the sun on your own over-water sun deck or enjoy your luxurious private oasis on the hidden rooftop sun deck with daybeds as well as dining facilities. With a total area of 210 square metres, they boast a king size bed and large open-air living room with daybeds as well as a dining area. The over-water sun deck has sun loungers while the open-air private bathroom has a separate glass walled shower area.

The seven Crusoe Residences stand alone in the ocean for the utmost privacy and seclusion and a private rowing boat/pontoon boat shuttle provides access to the main island. The Private Reserve with four bedrooms and a private pool covers 1700 square metres of luxurious living in the middle of the turquoise lagoon. With private butlers (proudly referred to as Mr. or Mrs. Friday) on call 24-hours, this is state-of-the-art living at its best with the most sumptuous views imaginable.

Be pampered and indulged

Meera Spa offers a range of holistic therapies. Hear the soothing lap of the waves, smell the invigorating aroma of the native oils and enjoy an unparalleled Maldives’ spa experience in the comfort of your own space. Meera, meaning ocean in the Sanskrit language, offers a peek underwater to heighten your spa experience with glass floor panels beneath the massage table.

Spa facilities include six over-water treatment rooms, a yoga area, steam and sauna rooms as well as a relaxation area with panoramic views of the sea.
Listen to the relaxing sound of the waves on the shore and the gentle sea breeze whispering across the beach while a professional therapist soothes away the stress and strain of modern living.

**Dine in extraordinary luxury**
The dining options at the resort are endless. The Main Restaurant is situated in a superb natural environment and is perfect for a relaxing breakfast or romantic dinner. With an East-meets-West focus, there is something to delight every palate. The Overwater Bar offers a casual menu enhanced with a wide selection of salads prepared with ingredients from the resort’s organic garden. Local herbs and spices enhance the dishes. For Japanese fusion and a teppanyaki table, By the Sea, with breathtaking views, is the perfect choice. Descend a flight of stairs to an underground chilled, cavernous cellar where chocolate and cheese caves await and wine tastings and dinners are hosted. Prepared to be surprised and delighted with the unexpected food pairings with destination dining, where a bespoke dining experience is tailored especially for you.

Choose to dine in the comfort of your villa, sun deck, rooftop terrace, on the beach with the sand in your toes or a deserted island retreat.

**Activities galore**
There are many renowned dive sites within a short boat ride of the resort and Manta Point is one where you can dive in a small group with the highly trained Ocean Paradise Dive Centre’s PADI instructors. A surf school is located on the Island which works with Tropicsurf and organises surf trips to the nearby breaks for advance surfers as well as various training programs for beginners. A Marine Biology centre allows guests to learn about the projects on the island and in the water. On-site activities include sunrise yoga, an endless number of watersports, a newly renovated tennis court and volleyball to name just a few. The resort’s fitness centre is located right at the water’s edge with panoramic ocean views through glass walls. An iPod dock is available to enhance your workout. Excursions including dolphin watching, sunset dhoni cruises, visits to the capital city and local islands can all be easily arranged for your leisure.

There is no other destination in the world that will touch all your senses, a visit to Gili Lankanfushi is an experience that you will never forget.
**MIRIHI ISLAND RESORT**

The recently renovated Mirihi Island Resort, nestled on an island in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean, invites you to enjoy the feeling of the sand between your toes as you explore the palm fringed beaches.

Considered one of the smallest islands in the Maldives, Mirihi Island is located in the South Ari Atoll and can be reached by a 25-minute scenic seaplane flight from Malé.

The resort boasts 37 recently renovated villas that are dotted over the island to ensure complete privacy. All villas have direct access to either the beach or the lagoon. Polished wooden floors create a cool, tropical ambience and tasteful furnishings have been used throughout. The sitting area has a sound system while other features include air-conditioning, free Wi-Fi and safe with a wine fridge and humidor available on request. Each of the six Beach Villas covers 53 square metres and offers an open-air bathroom as well as an outdoor freshwater shower on the way to the beach. The 30 Water Villas enjoy a spacious and luxurious en suite bathroom that gazes over the ocean through large sliding glass doors. A recent addition, the luxurious two-bedroom Overwater Suite covers a huge 160 square metres and has two bedrooms with en suite bathrooms and a spacious living room.

**Sumptuous dining**

Dazzling sunset views from Muraka Restaurant create the perfect environment for a romantic dinner. Prepare to be spoiled as you dine from a menu of contemporary cuisine from Maldivian lobster to Wagyu beef with an award-winning wine list for the perfect beverage to accompany your dish. The Dhonveli Restaurant has a traditional sand floor and offers beautiful ocean views from its spacious deck. Daily buffets, serving three meals a day, with a sumptuous array of dishes, from local seafood to international dishes, will surprise and delight. Private dining at one of the many secluded venues on the island is another option for a tailor-made experience.

Anba Bar is the perfect place to meet friends and relax with a delicious cocktail or light snack. Rum lovers will be amazed by the bar’s offering of the largest and most comprehensive collection of fine rum in the Maldives. Occasionally the bar also offers live music and other special events. Ruhgandu Wine Lounge is the resort’s small, unique wine lounge that showcases over 300 wines and Champagnes that have been carefully selected from around the world. Six guests can dine at the communal wooden table and occasionally wine
tastings and culinary wine dinners are offered.

Relax and be pampered
When it’s time for pampering, the Duniye Spa has two treatment rooms for couples and the trained therapists know exactly how to relieve your stress and relax your muscles. The special surroundings of the spa are sure to enhance any treatment you choose.

Activities galore
Visitors to the Maldives are often keen divers and the resort’s team at Ocean Pro Mirihi can cater to all levels of divers, from beginners to the more experienced wanting to fine tune their technique. There are over 40 dive sites for divers to enjoy and guests are assured of personal service from the multilingual team. Or grab your snorkel and explore the myriad of fish that make the reefs of Mirihi their home. Why not try night snorkelling to experience the reef and its inhabitants in a unique way?

The state-of-the-art fitness centre is perfect for keeping in shape and complimentary yoga and meditation sessions are offered in the new yoga pavilion. The resort offers almost unlimited fun for guests. Beside football, table tennis and a variety of board games, you can enjoy a movie at the beach cinema night with your feet in the sand and a bag of popcorn in your hand or, with one of the largest telescopes in the country, stargaze the heavens.

There is also an ocean discovery night where you can dive into the underwater world, without even getting wet, with a video and slideshow presentation. Watersport enthusiasts can use the complimentary windsurfing gear, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards and snorkelling equipment. The island’s chef will show you how to prepare original Maldivian dishes at a cooking class while wine and Champagne tastings are also offered. There are rum and chocolate tastings where you can both taste and learn about fine rums and chocolate.

Excursions
When you can bear to leave the sanctuary of the island, try a Whale Shark excursion on the resort’s yacht or opt for some island hopping. Glide on a catamaran over the Indian Ocean or enjoy an amazing sunset cruise.

Mirihi Island Resort has it all, a perfect location, amazing food and excellent service. Do as much or as little as you like, the choice is yours to make your holiday as unique as you!
Bandos is a beautiful coral island located in North Malé Atoll, about seven kilometres from Malé International Airport.

Under a never-ending azure blue sky with abundant sunshine, the island is covered by lush tropical vegetation and is fully encircled by pearl white beaches and clear turquoise blue warm waters.

Comfort, luxury and convenience

Bandos offers a wide choice of accommodation designed for ultimate comfort, luxury and convenience with modern architecture that blends perfectly with the tropical surroundings while maintaining a local feel.

The Standard and Deluxe Rooms offer simplistic elegance and are spacious and inviting while offering a wide range of amenities. The Garden Villas with their neatly trimmed hedges and flower gardens are designed for those who want to while away their vacation in the peacefulness of a carefully tended garden environment. Located in the middle of the island, near the new swimming pool facilities, these wooden chalets are beautifully furnished and come with their own private patio.

Set on a strip of white sandy beach overlooking a crystal-clear lagoon, the Jacuzzi Beach Villas are basket-weave styled duplexes with a separate living room and jacuzzi on the ground floor and a bedroom on the second floor. They feature wood furnishings and a balcony that provides a pleasant view of the beach front. The luxurious, modern Jacuzzi Pool Villa boasts a private infinity swimming pool and cabana-style sun deck.

Perched over the ocean, the Water Villas feature unique décor and breathtaking views, giving you the feeling that your villa is floating on the water. They offer luxury and tranquility with full privacy and services exclusive to the villa. The living spaces are fully furnished with modern amenities, while the defining feature of the bedroom is the ornate four-poster bed. The jacuzzi, set amongst lush tropical indoor plants and imported river pebbles, affords an uninterrupted view of the ocean and the unending horizon.

All rooms are equipped with air-conditioning, mini bar, IDD telephone, TV, tea and coffee making facilities and electronic safe.

The food at the resort is carefully prepared by passionate chefs to awaken your taste buds. The Gallery, consisting of three spacious pods, is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and is the main restaurant at Bandos. It usually has elaborate buffet displays during mealtimes. Offering delicious and authentic Thai flavours, the dishes at Koon Thai Restaurant can be accompanied with a selection of fine wines. Aptly named, the Sea Breeze
Café is situated at the edge of the water where guests can lounge on the large, over-water deck. Open round-the-clock, the restaurant offers a wide variety of international dining options.

Sand Bar’s modern facilities blend well with the tropical atmosphere. Enjoy the island ambience, a variety of tropical cocktails and refreshing beverages that suit your fancy. Situated near the world-class diving facility, the Huvan Bar is the best place to watch breathtaking Maldivian sunsets. Stop by the swim-up pool bar during a refreshing dip in the main pool, located in the midst of the beautiful surroundings of palm trees and blossoms, and enjoy a wide variety of juice drinks, soft ice creams and milkshakes. There is no need to carry a fully stuffed bag and towel to the pool. The pool bar provides all your poolside requirements and will ensure that you are well looked after. All you have to do is simply enjoy yourself.

Be pampered and rejuvenated at the Orchid Spa with a variety of treatments, massages and beauty therapies or check out the sports centre’s many facilities including a gym offering aerobics, spin and tone-up classes, a steam bath and sauna. Also available is squash, tennis (hard court, floodlit), volleyball, table tennis as well as billiards and board games. There is a freshwater swimming pool and a range of activities including snorkelling, windsurfing, catamaran sailing, canoeing, waterskiing, and fishing aboard the resort’s custom made charter boat.

Bandos’ state-of-the-art diving centre, Dive Bandos, is a member of the internationally acclaimed PADI International Resort Association, and one of the longest established diving centres in the country.

Catering to every need, other facilities include a 24-hour medical centre, a childcare centre, babysitting service and a business centre. The Convention Centre offers a conference hall with 450 seats and three meeting rooms, each with a capacity of 30 guests.

This idyllic setting, together with the wide variety of facilities and services on offer has resulted in Bandos Maldives perfecting its role of the welcoming host.
Enter paradise the moment you step ashore this idyllic private island oasis where guests are welcomed with gracious Maldivian hospitality into a world of unrivalled luxury.

Idyllic island living
A tropical paradise, Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa is located on its own island surrounded by stunning white sandy beaches and warm turquoise lagoons.

The resort offers 176 guest rooms and villas furnished in tropical style and with the finest amenities—each with Sheraton Sweet Sleeper® Bed, 40” LCD TV and more. All rooms are spacious and ideally located around the island and offer privacy and convenient access to the beach and lagoon.

Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort & Spa offers something for everyone. Escape from the everyday to a tropical paradise where you can be as relaxed or active as you wish. Choose from a range of day excursions, several watersports activities around the resort’s lagoon, scuba diving, or just relaxing by the freshwater pool.

If you want a break from all the activity, or are due for a little pampering, visit Shine Spa for Sheraton™, set across a bridge on its own small island—a haven of absolute tranquility.

Part of the resort’s appeal is the variety of dining options. With seven restaurants and lounge bars, there are flavours for every taste. Let your palate globe-trot the world of culinary cuisines, from casual settings to fine dining occasions. Join the executive chef and his team of talented chefs and bartenders and discover special gastronomical pleasures like no other.

Dine under a starlit sky
The resort also offers private dining under a starlit sky, with soft sand beneath your feet, or beside the shimmering lagoon. A 24-hour in-room menu is also available for dining in the comfort of your room with a selection of cuisines, snacks and beverages.

Sheraton Adventure Club, the branded Kids Club Programme promotes exciting activities and introduces local traditions to the young ones. Parents can enroll children, ages 4-12 free of charge. Children can enjoy a fun-filled day of activities including beach games, scavenger hunts, coconut bowling and more!

Sheraton Adventure Club also teaches children about local Maldivian culture through traditional music and dance or mini lessons on Dhivehi, the Maldivian language.
W Maldives is a private island and luxury playground in a wonderland of white sand beaches, turquoise lagoons and breathtaking reefs.

Curated by a group of global influencers in fashion, design, music and yoga, W Maldives presents ‘Let It Glow’, a restyled concept that unleashes a fresh new take on luxury travel.

The new look of the Escape evokes a sensory experience that reflects the perfect blend of W’s innovative architectural design and contemporary aesthetics. At the same time, the colours, materials and glowing elements convey the unique, vibrant and playful personality of the island. Borrowing from the Indian Ocean’s colourful marine life, twinkling stars and fluorescent plankton, the restyled Escape pulses to the concept of ‘infinite days, infinite nights’.

The island features 77 private Escapes and suites, including 28 Wonderful Beach Oasis, 46 Fabulous Overwater Oasis, three WOW Ocean Escape and one Extreme WOW Ocean Haven (the W brand’s interpretation of the Presidential Suite). Each chic and spacious Escape features a king-sized signature W bed, deluxe Bose® sound system, 42-inch television, wine refrigerator, delightful Munchie Box (the W brand’s reinterpretation of the staid minibar), sumptuous Bliss® bath amenities, infinity plunge pool and sundeck.

This luxury playground boasts an overwater signature restaurant FISH; all-day dining venue KITCHEN; BBQ restaurant FIRE; sunset and pool bar SIP; and FIFTEEN BELOW, the only underground nightclub in the Maldives, literally located fifteen steps below the island’s surface, and featuring the trendy sushi bar SUSHI BEAT.

Succumb to the dazzling blue waters, spectacular reefs and pristine sands in style and be at one with both body and soul. For all the adventurous, dive deep into the crystal blue ocean or explore the private house reef. DOWNUNDER & WAVE the ultimate watersports facility is fully equipped with state-of-the-art equipment.

AWAY® Spa at W Maldives is the ultimate sanctuary for well-being with four overwater treatment villas, each with a private outdoor area and a range of treatments designed to remove all the stresses and strains of modern day life.

Providing an escape within an escape for guests and travellers who seek something extraordinary, the Escape is designed as a modern paradise, where the day is dedicated to individual moments in which guests can refuel for what comes next. When night falls, W Maldives comes to life – nocturnal in nature like the W brand.
Discover first-class comfort and hospitality in a unique setting at Reethi Beach Resort. Amidst lush vegetation and surrounded by a white sandy beach and a crystal clear lagoon, the resort is perfectly situated on a tiny island in the Baa Atoll, a scenic 35-minute seaplane flight from Malé.

First-class comfort
The resort boasts elegant villas built from natural materials and appointed in typical Maldivian-style. Standard amenities include air-conditioning, a ceiling fan, IDD telephone, mini bar, in-room safe and satellite television. There are 40 detached or semi-detached Reethi Villas, conveniently just steps from the beautiful beach. On the beachfront with breathtaking views of the crystal clear lagoon are 50 detached beachfront Deluxe Villas. Each has a partial open-air bathroom with bathtub and open-air rain shower, bathrobes, a well-furnished sitting area, terrace and deck chairs, plus a Maldivian swing. Built on stilts over the clear waters of the lagoon, are 30 Water Villas with private balconies offering direct lagoon access, parasols and sun loungers.

The beachfront Coconut Spa offers a pampering experience tailored to meet individual needs, including massages, body and hair treatments, pedicures, manicures, facials and spa packages. Spa facilities include air-conditioned double and single treatment rooms, jacuzzi and steam room and a manicure and pedicure area as well as a boutique selling a wide range of spa products.

With five restaurants and five bars, guests are spoiled for choice. Enjoy sumptuous buffets, fusion cuisine, theme nights, tandoori and wood-fired pizza and Maldivian specialities in a range of dining locations.

Untouched natural beauty
Private excursions can be easily arranged enabling you to explore the untouched natural beauty of the Baa Atoll and the rich culture of its inhabitants. There is a S.C.U.B.A/PADI/ SSI dive centre and the resort’s watersports centre offers a wide range of activities including windsurfing, catamaran sailing, stand-up paddling, sailing, kite surfing, waterskiing, wakeboarding and fun tubes.

The resort is a recipient of numerous awards including the HolidayCheck award 2017, Travel Life Gold and the TripAdvisor - Certificate of Excellence recognising its excellent accommodation and outstanding service and facilities. At 95 percent occupancy throughout the year and 32 percent guest repeats, the resort is a popular choice for an unforgettable holiday in the Maldives.
REETHI FARU RESORT

In the Raa Atoll, on the tiny island of Filaidhoo in the Maldives, this place of natural beauty offers a unique holiday retreat. Discover a rare gem surrounded by a pristine beach, coconut groves, and lush vegetation.

Reethi Faru, meaning Beautiful Reef, is a new four-star superior resort due to open November 2017. The resort comprises 150 well-furnished villas perfect for couples, or a great option for families or friends travelling together.

Unrivalled scenic beauty
The resort offers unrivalled scenic beauty, superb dining and spacious accommodation, where guests can relax and unwind in tranquil settings where dedicated staff will do their best to attend to every need and assist in an unobtrusive way. Accommodation blends perfectly into the natural beauty of the environment and its unique setting amid tropical foliage, fringing a long expanse of powder soft beach, or on stilts over the clear blue lagoon will make you wish to stay on and on.

Spacious detached and semi-detached villas are built in a traditional Maldivian-style with all the modern comforts you'd expect. Rooms are beautifully appointed and offer a tropical vibe, with comfortable beds and sitting area. Amenities include flat-screen TVs, tea and coffee makers, partial open-air bathrooms, and terraces or balconies. Upgraded units add ocean views and some with jacuzzis.

A selection of restaurants cater to every taste and the bars, both poolside and beachfront, will invite guests to linger longer. Dining options can also be enjoyed in the privacy of your villa.

A wide range of recreational facilities on the island include diving, watersports, tennis, squash, badminton and a gym.

The resort, which has a stunning white sand beach, boasts a beautiful house reef just 30 to 80 metres from shore where you can snorkel and discover its colourful corals and diverse marine life.

A true indulgent experience.
Unhurried by pressures of the outside world, the spa welcomes guests to indulge in some pampering with a range of massages and rejuvenating wellness treatments to soothe the soul and calm the mind.

The resort can be reached by a scenic 45-minute seaplane flight from Velana International Airport or a 20-minute domestic flight to Dharavandhoo domestic airport followed by a 30-minute speedboat ride.

Filaidhoo, Raa Atoll MALDIVES
Email: inquiry@reethifaru.com  www.reethifaru.com
Welcome to an island sanctuary where luxury and landscape merge to create a living experience that is one with nature.

The Taj Exotica Resort & Spa, Maldives is located on the exotic Emboodhu Finolhu Island, ornamented with pale white sand, crystal blue waters and lush tropical flora only 15-20 minutes by luxury speedboat from Malé International Airport.

The multi award-winning resort seamlessly extends the magic of the island’s blessed natural beauty in its design and offers the finest in contemporary amenities and services. Luxuriously appointed villas and suites, private plunge pools and personal sundecks with endless views of the Indian Ocean make this the perfect setting for a private retreat.

Each of the 64 villas and suites come with a personalised butler service. Interiors are delightfully appointed in classic Maldivian style, furnished in natural tones and textures while exteriors are built of the finest natural wood finishes. Most of the luxuriously designed villas are perched over the lagoon, only a wooden ladder separates you from a refreshing dip.

A choice of bespoke dining experiences include 24 Degrees, an all-day dining restaurant with a display kitchen, which offers a variety of Pan-Asian and European comfort food. The Teppanyaki with masterly crafted teppan set menus of fresh seafood, meats and vegetables, offers a unique culinary experience.

The Deep End features upscale dishes from prime cut rare meats to fresh, local catch, seafood varieties and vegetables. All cuts of meat are grilled to your preference. Complete your culinary journey with a symphony of the ultimate sweet temptations created by the pastry chef right at your table.

The Pool Bar & Restaurant offers a choice of healthy snacks and coolers along with oven-fresh pizzas and exotic tropical cocktails. Or by the extensive beach patio, The Equator Bar serves a variety of traditional vintages, new world wines, cocktails, cigars and shishas.

The Jiva Grande Spa, an authentic Indian spa, offers a range of signature wellness experiences ranging from Indian aromatherapy massages, wellness treatments, yoga and meditation.

Warm and welcoming staff members are knowledgeable hosts, they can arrange private dinners, luxury speedboat cruises and tours through the winding streets of Malé. Anything from a snorkelling excursion to a massage in a private pavilion can be tailor-made to create a unique, individual experience.
Get ready to enter a world of pristine white sand, magnificent coconut palms and pure bliss.

Vivanta By Taj – Coral Reef, Maldives has all the exotic ocean views and dramatic sunsets you need for the perfect tropical holiday with a streamlined, sophisticated take on resort accommodations. Located on Hembadhu Island, less than 32 kilometres from Male airport, this tropical retreat is meticulously designed to offer a personalised holiday experience.

Your personal haven
Complete indulgence awaits you with five-star accommodation boasting awe-inspiring views of the sea along with every modern facility, bringing to you the very best there is to offer.

Superior Charm and Deluxe Delight
thatched Beach Villas feature large beachside poricos, brilliant views, outdoor showers and a uniquely designed open space. Premium Indulgence Water Villas, will indulge all your senses with 85 square metres complete with an outer deck overlooking the water with sun loungers, an open air shower and a wide wooden ladder going straight into the lagoon.

The two-bedroom Presidential Nirvana Beach Suites are utterly remarkable. Constructed as duplex villas with thatched roofs, each suite is spread over two floors and has a large living area overlooking the Indian Ocean, and a private deck overlooking the lagoon with a private outdoor plunge pool.

An array of appetising cuisines for you to enjoy awaits. Relish exquisite Asian, Indian and Continental cuisine at Latitude, the all-day dining restaurant, and fresh woodfired pizza is available at any time through the day at Pizzeria. Overlooking the lagoon and the swimming pool dine al fresco at Open - the Grill.

Extensive fitness and wellness amenities include the exclusive Jiva Spa that delights you with natural treatments that draw on India’s ancient approach to wellness and healing wisdom. For those who can’t miss their daily fitness regimen, there is a 24-hour fitness centre and an infinity swimming pool.

Coral Reef offers a diverse range of fun experiences and breathtaking escapes. Get whisked away to an exotic bank for a romantic escapade. Snorkelling trips to the Blue Lagoon can be organised where you can swim amongst schools of colourful fish and marine life. Go big game fishing in a specially designed fishing boat, perfect for casting or bring on the excitement with a deep-sea dive to an authentic shipwreck that’s covered with coral and home to thousands of fish. The possibilities are truly endless.
Fringed by white sand beaches and lush vegetation, the perfect haven for the discerning traveller seeking luxurious seclusion awaits.

Coco Bodu Hithi provides a bespoke stay with warm, friendly service. Villas are tastefully designed, combining the best of traditional Maldivian architecture with contemporary features.

**Open-plan, intimate Island Villas**

Include outdoor spaces where you can relax and unwind. Enjoy complete privacy in your personal garden pool with views of the crystal clear ocean from your beachfront terrace.

Suspended on stilts above the lagoon, Water Villas and Escape Water Villas offer every comfort with separated living spaces and sumptuous master bedrooms.

For an uninterrupted vista, step out on to your terrace, lounge on the daybed or take a dip in your private pool before enjoying a romantic dinner for two as the sun sets. The natural beauty of the Maldives is framed perfectly by the floor-to-ceiling windows in every room. Outside, steps lead down to the lagoon so you can snorkel whenever you choose.

**Epitome of luxury**

The Coco Residences redefine luxury with high ceilings and large windows that provide stunning natural light highlighting the exquisite interior with amenities such as a luxurious pillow menu and a private wine cellar to explore.

The terrace area is split-level with steps leading into the lagoon with abundant marine life among the house reef for snorkelling enthusiasts or indulge in the luxurious comfort of your private infinity plunge pool.

A choice of several restaurants and bars serve some of the finest food and drink in the Maldives. With an eclectic range of outdoor and indoor locations, you can discover a different dining experience every night, from a delicious barbecue on the beach to authentic Japanese dishes.

Enjoy tailor-made experiences that will inspire and reenergise. Visit a nearby reef and explore the beautiful coral gardens below, soak up Malé’s rich cultural heritage, or join old and new friends for a memorable sunset cruise around the local islands. After a day of scuba diving, sailing, windsurfing or waterskiing, the Coco Spa is the perfect place to relax and indulge. There is also a yoga pavilion as well as an extensive range of excursions and recreational land-based activities at the wonderful Coco Bodu Hithi.
COCO PALM DHUNI KOLHU

Located on Dhuni Kolhu, just a 30-minute seaplane flight from Malé International Airport, discover an exclusive and pristine address set on a beautiful island fringed by white sand beaches and crystal clear lagoons.

Barefoot luxury
Seclusion is guaranteed at Coco Palm Dhuni Kolhu with thatched villas dotted amongst the palms along the beach or perched on stilts above the lagoon. Ocean Front Villas, Beach Villas, Sunset Beach Villas and Deluxe Villas are scattered throughout the island. Lining the ocean or nestled amongst lush vegetation, they invite you to explore the barefoot comfort and tranquility of the island. The high-pitched ceilings and king sized bed in these villas are complemented by traditional thatched roofs and open-air garden bathrooms that reflect an authentic Maldivian touch.

Perched over the azure waters, Lagoon Villas offer absolute indulgence with panoramic views of the Indian Ocean. These villas feature a four-poster king sized bed and are fitted with jacuzzi bathrooms overlooking the turquoise waters and sunken freshwater splash pools on large sun decks. Merging simple natural beauty with lavish comforts, two Sunset Lagoon Villas offer an indulgent space featuring king sized four-poster beds and a living space decked with homely rustic pieces. Fitted with a deluxe spa bath, the luxurious bathroom overlooks the ocean and a sunken freshwater glass-bottomed splash pool on the private terrace invites you to enjoy the most stunning views with undisturbed privacy.

Delicious dining options cater to all tastes. Cowrie Restaurant serves international favourites and the Cornus Restaurant specialises in local dishes as well as Thai, Indian and other Asian cuisines. Conch Bar and Beach Bar offer the perfect places to sip on a tropical beverage while admiring the stunning views.

Indulge and relax
A tranquil haven created to indulge in wellbeing and relaxation, the Coco Spa uses a collection of Ayurvedic inspired products and treatments to enhance a truly unique spa experience.

There is never a dull moment for guests at Coco Palm Dhuni Kolhu with a number of fascinating excursions offered including dolphin watching, a Maldivian-style sunset fishing trip, a day trip on the deserted Medufinolhu island, a day exploring a traditional local village or sunset cocktails and canapés on a private beach. Other activities include catamaran sailing, windsurfing, waterskiing, sailing and scuba diving.

Dhuni Kolhu Island Baa Atoll MALDIVES
Tel: +960 660 0011 Fax: +960 660 0022 Email: reservations@cocopalm.com www.cocopalm.com
Paradise Island Resort & Spa offers a tropical escape in the middle of the Indian Ocean, surrounded by bright white beaches and a lagoon awash in cobalt blues and aquamarines.

Tropical splendour
This luxurious resort features a network of paved pathways that wind through the lush grounds connecting oceanfront accommodations. Blending modern luxury and comfort with tropical allure, a wide range of accommodation is available to suit all types of travellers. There are 220 Superior Beach Bungalows and 40 Water Villas offering sweeping ocean views and a host of superb luxuries including air-conditioning, minibar, in-house movies and satellite TV.

Each bungalow boasts an open-air shower as well as stunning ocean views and beach access.

The exclusive Haven Suites each feature a plasma TV with satellite channels, spacious private veranda with cushioned daybeds, a freshwater bath and panoramic vistas of the blue sea that extends from right under your feet. With their own private swimming pools, the two magnificent Ocean Suites are perched at the edge of the reef and have breathtaking views of the crystal clear lagoon and ocean.

No island holiday would be complete without experiencing the colour and life of this vibrant underwater world. The Maldives is a spectacular destination to enjoy snorkelling and diving, windsurfing, water-skiing, jet-skiing, windsurfing, canoeing and much more.

Satisfy your appetite at Al Tramonto Italian Restaurant while delicious Japanese food can be enjoyed at the Fukuya Teppanyaki Restaurant.

Theme nights at Paradise Island include a beach barbecue and a Maldivian night. Enjoy cocktails and a glorious sunset under the thatched parasols of the Beach Bar.

Tranquil hideaway
The Araamu Spa offers a precious retreat within the resort where health, vitality, and radiance are rediscovered. With 10 delightful Maldivian-style pavilions, the spacious Araamu Spa offers an atmosphere of absolute tranquility. For medicinal purposes, there is an exclusive Ayurvedic menu of treatments and guests can consult with an in-house Ayurveda specialist.

Situated on the eastern edge of the North Malé Atoll just 15 minutes by speedboat from the international airport, the massive, reef enclosed lagoon and beautiful white beaches of Paradise Island are unbeatable.
For those seeking a relaxed, fun-filled tropical holiday in paradise, Sun Island Resort & Spa is nestled on Nalaguraidhoo, in the South Ari Atoll.

Sun Island Resort & Spa boasts 462 beautifully furnished guestrooms and suites, all offering striking views of the sapphire Indian Ocean, as well as a host of modern conveniences for the contemporary traveller. Indulge in the sumptuous luxury of the expansive, two-bedroom Presidential Suite, featuring a private beachfront terrace and jacuzzi tub. Or make the most of the island location with the unique Water Bungalows, perched on stilts above a tranquil lagoon with private stairways leading to the water.

All rooms and bungalows at the resort are comfortably furnished and feature air-conditioning, satellite TV, IDD phone, email, minibar, in-room safe, open-air shower and room service.

From invigorating activities to precious tranquillity, Sun Island Resort & Spa will captivate the heart with extraordinary experiences and unforgettable memories. Cruise along the stunning sapphire lagoons by jet-ski, canoe, windsurf or catamaran, explore the spectacular local scenery and culture with excursions to neighbouring islands, or simply let the ocean breeze caress you as you sway gently in your hammock.

A host of facilities include a flood-lit tennis court, badminton, volleyball and squash, and a freshwater swimming pool and children’s pool are set in landscaped grounds, and beach lovers will enjoy snorkelling and diving.

Additional facilities include a gym, beauty salon, video games, in-house doctor, and currency exchange.

Visit the Araamu Spa and indulge and rejuvenate the body and mind. Special treatments use flower, marine and plant essences and include Ayurveda and Ytsara as well as spa packages.

Inspire the palate with the rich flavours and innovative cuisine of Sun Island Resort & Spa. There is a myriad of bars and nightspots, as well as five restaurants each showcasing different aspects of Maldivian dining, from fresh, locally caught seafood to exotic Thai and Oriental influences. Enjoy beach barbecues, Maldivian theme nights, the karaoke rooms and disco.

From the international airport, the island can be accessed via a 17 minute domestic flight followed by a 10 minute boat ride. Sun Island Resort & Spa boasts unique Ultra Gold and Ultra Platinum packages for guests.
Surrounded by an unspoilt white sandy beach, the private island is covered in lush tropical vegetation. This exotic paradise is just 10 minutes by aircraft from the international airport followed by a 10 minute speed boat ride.

Set on Horubadhoo Island, located in the Baa atoll, 118 kilometres northwest of Malé, Royal Island Resort & Spa is a tranquil and secluded oceanfront resort that offers breathtaking views and five-star amenities at every turn.

There are 148 Beach Villas, offering complete privacy and a warm and welcoming ambience, with the beach and lagoon just a few steps away from their private verandahs.

For something extra special, there are two spectacular presidential suites, each featuring elegant décor and access to a private beach and sparkling lagoon. From the round-the-clock butler service to the king sized bedrooms, spacious verandah, swimming pool, and jacuzzi. Air-conditioning, satellite TV, mini bar, internet access, open air showers and private sun decks are standard in all rooms.

Relax and unwind at the lavish Araamu Spa, which offers a delectable menu of treatments to calm the senses, soothe the body and invigorate the spirit. Treatments on offer at the spa include aromatic baths, Ayurveda, aromatherapy, reflexology, massages, herbal and beauty treatments. There is also a jacuzzi, steam room, sauna and whirlpool for resort guests to relax in.

Whether you choose traditional Maldivian dining specialties, international fare or haute cuisine, there are a number of dining choices available at Royal Island Resort & Spa. Other facilities and services include a pool, gymnasium and aerobics centre, tennis and squash courts, and a myriad of sports and recreational activities to ensure a truly unforgettable holiday in paradise.

Watersports in the clear lagoon include snorkelling, waterskiing, jet-skiing, windsurfing, catamaran sailing and canoeing. There is a PADI dive centre offering lessons and guided diving tours while fishing enthusiasts can indulge their passion with day or night fishing. For guests who enjoy exploring, there are daily excursions to enjoy and around the atoll, such as island hopping on traditional wooden dhonis and romantic picnics on deserted tropical islands.

Special packages are available for weddings and couples honeymooning at Royal Island, ensuring a stress-free and romantic escape. For the ultimate tropical holiday, Royal Island Resort & Spa is the perfect destination.
COCOON MALDIVES

Just a short 30-minute seaplane ride away from the Velana International Airport, Cocoon Maldives is the actualisation of a dream to create a unique designer resort that mixes luxury, design aesthetics, and hospitality in one exceptionally beautiful tropical island.

Located on the stunning island of Ookolhufinolhu in the Lhaviyani Atoll of the Maldives, the first glimpse of Cocoon Maldives will take your breath away. Seemingly floating over the shimmering azure lagoon, the lush green vegetation and the crystal-white sandy beaches is ready to enfold you in its warm embrace and comfort you with every luxury imaginable.

The best elements of hospitality have been assembled into an elegant yet modern resort. Designed by renowned Italian firm LAGO, Cocoon’s understated interiors defer to the extraordinary beauty of the surrounding marine environment: large windows frame entrancing vistas of beach, lagoon and ocean, complemented by furniture hewn from 200-year-old Wildwood.

The Beach Villas offer a terrace overlooking the stunning crystal clear ocean while your private garden is the ideal way to experience sunshine filled days with sun loungers, a day bed, a swimming pool and outdoor shower. A selection of exclusive Lagoon Villas are perched on stilts in the lagoon offering direct access for a dip in the sea.

Indulge in refreshing rejuvenation at The Cube Spa set amidst lush gardens. Cocoon’s experienced spa therapists offer a wide range of therapeutic treatments from various corners of the world to ensure a sublime spa experience.

With a selection of three restaurants and two bars, you will be spoiled for choice. MANTA Restaurant offers à la carte dining in the lagoon. Showcasing culinary highlights from around the world, the resort’s buffet restaurant, the OCTOPUS serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. The PALM SQUARE provides a fine selection of grilled seafood dishes and special beef delicacies. The KURUMBA Bar offers daily refreshments and beverages, while the LOABI LOABI pool bar is available all day for refreshing beverages along with maldivian cocktails.

Cocoon’s dedicated in-house team ensure round-the-clock service for all guests’ whims and needs and can help arranging memorable adventures, be these watersports, diving and snorkelling, fishing or cultural enrichment excursions. If romance is on the cards, nothing beats an intimate candlelight dinner right on the beach under the stars after a refreshing day being spoiled at The Cube Spa.
Only a short ride from the airport at Malé, the hotel embodies themes of indulgence throughout, and focuses on giving guests unparalleled service to match the amazing visual treat offered by the Maldives.

Beauty beyond imagination
With 50 beautifully appointed over-water villas, Adaaran Prestige Vadoo sets the standard for a new level in luxury. A splash of colour adds punctuation to the cosy living spaces, where a barefoot, simple lifestyle of basking in the sun’s rays prevails. All villas include your own personal butler. They feature teak wood floors, generous, comfy beds, ample sun decks and plunge pools that offer sweeping views of the warm Indian Ocean that encompasses you.

For newlyweds looking for the perfect getaway, exclusive Honeymoon Villas offer private retreats complemented by premier services and amenities to make your honeymoon even more memorable. Set amongst exquisitely landscaped gardens with a magnificent swimming pool and exclusive spa facilities, Adaaran Prestige Vadoo is a name synonymous worldwide with luxury and satisfaction.

Set amongst exquisitely landscaped gardens with a magnificent swimming pool and exclusive spa facilities, Adaaran Prestige Vadoo is a name synonymous worldwide with luxury and satisfaction. Enjoy the cleansing and rejuvenating treatments offered by Chavana Spa that are guaranteed to leave you blissfully relaxed and refreshed. In lush surroundings, allow traditional therapeutic methods to naturally cleanse both body and mind to create a purifying spa experience.

The island of Vadoo does not disappoint with expanses of pristine beach and glistening seas under the radiance of idyllic tropical skies. Adaaran Prestige Vadoo is a diver’s paradise with a beautiful house reef offering different dives for both experienced and novice divers. Swimming and snorkelling are also among the leisure options available. The picturesque coral reefs in the inviting waters shelter a myriad of marine life including colourful fish, vibrant coral and other denizens of the deep.

You will be spoiled for culinary choice at Adaaran Prestige Vadoo. Enjoy gourmet cuisine, fine dining options and refined service at the Farivalhu Restaurant or Japanese cuisine and the freshest seafood, a signature delicacy, at the resort’s Kithajima restaurant.

The main bar is situated on the turquoise waters of the atoll in close vicinity to the Water Villas while the beach bar is located on the far side of the atoll and offers a prime beach location atop soft, golden sands.
A tropical haven with picturesque palm trees, spotless white beaches and sapphire waters, Hudhuranfushi never fails to enchant.

On 83 acres of lush property on Lhohifushi Island, the resort’s design enables it to nestle into its surroundings giving the impression of a quiet village whose shores are lapped by the azure waters of the Indian Ocean.

Elegant design
All of Adaaran Select Hudhuranfushi’s distinct accommodations are equipped with the latest facilities, elegant design and colourful furnishings, exuding the perfect blend of fun and relaxation. Atop turquoise waters, thatched-roof Ocean Villas are elegant retreats with modernist interiors equipped with a plethora of exclusive amenities. Enjoy all-encompassing views of the sea with direct access stairways that invite you into the clear waters. Dotted along the outlying areas of the atoll, Beach Villas offer unhindered views of the ocean and are furnished in colourful, contemporary themes. Garden Rooms are located just behind the beach villas giving easy access to the beach and hotel facilities.

Start the day with a breakfast buffet and enjoy ethnic dishes, international cuisine or light snacks in a variety of restaurants and cafés. Choose from a range of fresh seafood and create a meal to your liking while you enjoy the views of the Indian Ocean. Indulge in a candle-lit dinner or celebrate and sip a glass of wine and relax to the soothing sounds of the ocean at the Sunset Bar and Restaurant. Discerning diners are tempted nightly by the themed buffet that offers a combination of Maldivian and international dishes.

Enjoy an abundance of watersport options. The shimmering waters of the lagoon make an ideal environment for catamarans, waterskiing, windsurfing, canoeing, kite surfing and banana boat riding. Discover immaculate beaches and islands with a variety of island hopping tours including Barefoot Island and a honeymoon excursion on Bird’s Island. Hudhuranfushi is particularly renowned as a superb surfing venue with exclusive access to Lohi’s surf break, an exceptional surf break that is well known by avid surfers.

Hudhuranfushi is conveniently situated in North Malé Atoll, just 19 kilometres from the international airport. A speedboat covers this distance in a mere 30 minutes. Visitors who choose to stay at Hudhuranfushi will enjoy easy access to local landmarks such as the National Museum, Grand Friday Mosque and the Presidential Palace.
Adaaran Select Meedhupparu offers tranquil settings brimming with luxury. Surrender your senses to the soothing atmosphere and experience opulence redefined.

Adaaran Select Meedhupparu is located in Raa Atoll, 136 kilometres to the north of the capital of the Maldives, Malé. A seaplane journey will cover this distance in 45 minutes.

Blissful accommodation
Affording stunning views of the infinite horizon, Beach Villas grant easy access to the white sandy beaches of the island. Elegantly furnished with wooden interiors creating a warm setting, they offer guests ample space to unwind. A variety of modern facilities include satellite television, air-conditioning, an in-room safe and free Wi-Fi in public areas.

Guests may choose to lounge on the powder soft beaches or take a dip in the meticulously designed swimming pool. The gleaming waters surrounding the resort are irresistible, inviting visitors to experience the tranquil seas and explore the untouched beauty of nearby deserted islands. Swimming and snorkelling are ideal pursuits at this pristine location, with a beautiful coral reef visible in the waters. Travellers looking for adventure will be able to try their hand at a variety of activities from windsurfing and waterskiing to scuba diving and fishing.

Oasis of tranquility and relaxation
Surrounded by lush landscaping, Chavana Spa at Adaaran Select Meedhupparu offers tranquility, privacy and a range of pampering treatments, facials and massages inspired from the freshness of a Balinese garden. The spa features double and single rooms as well as steam and sauna facilities.

Sample an array of sublime tastes and flavours at the unique restaurants serving everything from succulent seafood, fresh from the dhonis, to signature European delicacies. Enjoy fantastic meals at any of the lavish restaurants and experience dining in the Maldives at its absolute best. Find the perfect accompaniment to your meal in the form of a refreshing beverage, also offered by the restaurants.

Pamper yourself with a leisurely holiday complete with spacious accommodation featuring stylish décor and spectacular views stretching over the enticing Indian Ocean. Enjoy unrestricted access to the pristine waters surrounding the island of Meedhupparu and discover the best of the Maldives during your stay at Adaaran Select Meedhupparu.
Offering a perfect blend of lavishness and comfort, Heritance Aarah offers unparalleled luxury with a touch of tradition.

Accessible by a 40-minute seaplane journey from Malé International Airport, the resort is nestled in blissful seclusion on a private island in the Raa Atoll, where pristine blue waters beckon.

Perfect tropical getaway
Heritance Aarah offers peaceful seclusion and much needed relaxation for the perfect tropical getaway. Opening March 2018, sees the first resort from Sri Lankan luxury hotel brand, Heritance in the Maldives.

Featuring plush accommodation in the lap of paradise, the island is perfectly suited for couples, families, and groups with a choice of accommodation options all designed and built with a fusion of indigenous Maldivian and modern architecture.

There are 68 Beach Villas, some with private pools and available in family categories. Each villa offers direct beach access just a few metres in front of their large open air veranda.

Luxurious private sanctuaries
The 82 luxury Water Suites and Water Villas are luxurious private sanctuaries overlooking a vast seascape. Unwind on the sun deck with direct access to the shimmering lagoon just steps below.

Guests are treated to a host of dining options with excellent service in a range of settings, from relaxing at the pool bar, enjoying a beachside barbecue or à la carte dining at the specialty restaurant perched over the lagoon.

Dining by design is available and offers guests a bespoke dining experience.

Heritance Aarah is the ideal place to unwind any way you choose, whether you are seeking a haven for pure relaxation or an active a holiday retreat for the whole family, the choices are endless.

Total relaxation
Immerse yourself in total relaxation and choose from a range of lush holistic treatments to balance the body and mind at the overwater spa which features six treatment rooms with stunning ocean views.

The watersports centre includes a variety of non-motorised activities for guests to choose from or explore the rich and diverse marine life under the water’s surface. The resort’s PADI licensed dive centre is run by a multilingual team of professionals. The kids’ club offers a fun and educational range of activities for children to enjoy.
A short 25-minute scenic flight by seaplane from Malé International Airport will land you at Lily Beach Resort & Spa on Huvahendhoo Island, situated in the southeast Ari Atoll.

The resort has a worldwide reputation for its pristine beaches, lush tropical vegetation and exotic house reef just a few metres from the shore. Huvahendhoo Island’s wonderful location puts it in close proximity to some of the world’s most amazing dive sites and wrecks.

Guests can enjoy the Platinum Plan, which offers a selection of quality services including luxurious accommodations, day trips, excursions and fine dining experiences as well as VIP lounge access to the domestic Sea Plane Terminal.

Natural materials are used throughout the resort resulting in a fusion of contemporary design and local Maldivian architecture. Blending with the natural surrounds, the resort has 125 villas all with air-conditioning, satellite TV, DVD player and complimentary internet access.

Nestled amidst lush vegetation along the pristine white sand beach are the elegantly designed Beach Villas. Amidst tropical gardens, the Lagoon Villas are luxuriously furnished with a sea-facing terrace with private beachfront and direct access to the lagoon. The Sunset Water Suites, each with their own individual butler service, offer uncompromising views of the ocean and the lagoon.

The Deluxe Water Villas are appointed with breathtaking glass flooring, private deck with direct access to the lagoon, jacuzzi pool, in-room bath, and are finished with natural wood accents and marble interiors.

Relax and rejuvenate at the Tamara Spa in the over-water exclusive spa pavilions where guests can indulge in a wide range of therapeutic treatments designed to stimulate the senses, revitalise and rejuvenate.

For those seeking a little adventure, there are day trips and island hopping tours as well as big game fishing and snorkelling safaris. Visit the gym or watersports centre that is equipped with a wide choice of non-motorised activities including canoeing, windsurfing, wake boarding and catamaran sailing.

Lily Maa offers a sumptuous buffet for breakfast, lunch and dinner, live cooking stations, grill and delightful desserts. For a fine dining experience, Tamarind restaurant features Indian and Chinese inspired dishes. Informal and lively, The Spirit bar is ideal for after-dinner relaxation.
Dozens of small islands, clear blue waters and white sand define the South Ari Atoll, and here Amaya Kuda Rah proudly stands tall as one of the most desired destinations.

Private plunge pools, wooden sundecks and miles of coastline are the hallmark of accommodation, bringing you the finest in relaxation, privacy and luxury.

Beach Villas offer direct access to the beach and breathtaking, uninterrupted views of the lagoon. A rear garden area and private plunge pool complete the cozy villa with its teak interiors and plush yet minimalist furnishings. With a private waterfront pool and sundeck, lounge and daybed areas along with garden courtyard bathroom with rain shower, the Beach Suites offer you a liberating experience; not just in terms of space but also in terms of luxury.

Extending from the shore line, The Water Villas bring a new meaning to exclusive lagoon accommodation. With spacious private bathrooms and interiors, a large private sun deck and an infinity plunge pool, this is luxury living at its best. The luxurious, private Presidential Suite offers the ultimate holiday experience. It’s an over water, two-bedroom suite with lounge, private sundecks, jacuzzi and in suite dining (upon request), comfortable interiors and privacy second to none.

Enhance your seaside stay with one of the resort’s relaxing dining experiences. Indulge in a Champagne brunch with the palms rustling in the breeze. Or for something delightfully intimate, you can clink glasses under the moonlit sky during a romantic dinner for two. Destination dining options let you wine and dine wherever you want, enjoying the authentic cuisines against a beautiful beach backdrop.

For those seeking adventure, a range of watersports and island tours are offered. Embark on an island hopping tour, go dolphin watching or experience the gentle pace of the local islands and immerse yourself in Maldivian culture.

Discover the spectacular coral reefs of the Maldives, a trove of colourful marine life. Explore some of the Maldives’ most extraordinary dive sites such as Kuda Rah Thila, home to grey reef sharks, Napoleon fish and sea turtles, or snorkel over swaying sea anemones, schools of parrotfish and majestic green turtles. The clear, warm waters offer brilliant visibility, your window into a beautiful, underwater dreamscape.

In your downtime, treat yourself to a pampering spa treatment or idle your day away by turquoise waters. At Amaya Kuda Rah, the choice is yours.
OUTRIGGER KONOTTA MALDIVES RESORT

This secluded yet seamlessly accessible destination offers a sense of complete isolation, surrounded by unmatched natural beauty. Luxurious, rare and intimate, discover the newest jewel in the Maldives with Outrigger Resorts.

Outrigger Konotta Maldives Resort rests within the crystal waters of Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll. Prepare to be spoiled with endless views of the horizon, and discover a unique world of rich marine life in the resort’s pristine lagoon.

The resort offers a complete sense of privacy and intimate luxury with its 21 Beach Pool Villas, 21 Ocean Pool Villas, eight Two Bedroom Beach Pool Villas, two Lagoon Pool Villas and the Grand Konotta Villa.

All accommodation boasts ample living and sleeping space, expansive bathroom facilities and abundant relaxation areas featuring outdoor lounges, wooden sun decks and private swimming pools.

Dining at the resort focuses on true hospitality and genuine care for guests. Blue Salt, the international à la carte restaurant allows guests to indulge in cuisine from around the world. Seasonal produce and fresh, locally caught sustainable fish are blended expertly with a wide variety of spices to present guests with a unique dining experience.

Enter into a haven of tranquility at Navasana Spa. The setting and treatments are inspired by a world of cultures and lifestyles that invite you to discover and indulge in time-honoured traditions. These secrets have been merged into lavish body and beauty treatments, all designed for, and dedicated to, your utmost relaxation.

Famous for powdery white beaches and azure seas, the waters surrounding the resort are warm and inviting, and you’ll be impressed by the variety of watersports ready for you. Whether you prefer a day spent leisurely drifting on a stand-up paddle board, or the thrill of windsurfing, wakeboarding or surfing, you’ll find it here.

For something more unique, try one of the glass-bottom kayaks and experience the beauty of the Maldives above and below the waves at the same time.

There are countless islands nearby to explore, embark on an island-hopping tour, or take a romantic evening cruise on a traditional Dhoni boat watching dolphins play as the sun sets.

Experience the rich Maldivian culture with a guided tour, or bring a piece of it back home by signing up for a cooking class.

Konotta Island, Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll MALDIVES
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HULHULE ISLAND HOTEL

On the same island as the international airport, Hulhule Island Hotel, the winner of numerous international awards including the prestigious World’s Leading Airport Resort at World Travel Awards from 2012-2016, is five minutes from the airport and a short boat trip away from the capital city, Malé.

Surrounded by the serene ambience of turquoise waters, this hotel offers 136 well-appointed guestrooms featuring vibrant décor and breathtaking views of the Indian Ocean. The comfortable air-conditioned rooms include an LED television with satellite channels, a personalised digital safe, mini bar, pillow menu, branded bathroom amenities, tea and coffee making facilities, as well as round-the-clock in-room dining. Some guestrooms also boast a balcony, jacuzzi and DVD player.

Adjudged the Best Culinary Establishment in the Maldives on numerous occasions, the hotel has some of the best chefs in the Maldives on their team and the rooftop restaurant was awarded “Best Hotel Restaurant Staff Worldwide 2015.”

A range of food and beverages at the hotel’s restaurants and bars include the exclusive rooftop restaurant, the Uduvilaa, and Faru Coffee House. The Sunset Deck offers the opportunity to watch an exotic sunset. The Champs Bar, Champs Deck, Pool Side and Beach Bar offer guests beverages of their choice. Round-the-clock service is available for dining in the privacy of your own room. Banquets and special meals can also be arranged.

For conferences or banquets in paradise, Ras Maalan Ballroom can accommodate up to 150 or can be divided into two smaller function spaces with audio/visual equipment available on request. The hotel also includes a gym with state-of-the-art equipment as well as trained gym instructors to assist guests. Tennis and badminton courts, a swimming pool and a golf-putting green with floodlights allow sports enthusiasts to enjoy games even after dark.

Water-based activities abound with guests able to enjoy snorkelling and scuba diving as well big game fishing and island hopping. Numerous excursions can be easily arranged including a popular shopping trip to Malé, just 10 minutes from the hotel by boat, or visit the museum, fish market, President’s Palace, Sultan Park or the Grand Mosque. For relaxation and indulgence, the dedicated professionals at the spa offer a unique blend of traditional therapies and treatments.

Hulhule Island Hotel is a contemporary and exotic hotel catering to the diversified needs of discerning travellers.
The Philippines is divided into northern, central and southern regions by the three island groups of Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao. As many as 2500 Philippine islands are not named and the nearest neighbours are Taiwan in the north, eastern Malaysia and Brunei to the southwest, and Indonesia in the south.

The archipelago has a dramatic and varied landscape, ranging from volcanoes to narrow coastal plains and waterways, ancient rice terraces, rugged coastlines and fine white beaches. In addition to its natural assets, the Philippines has a rich history and unique culture resulting in a multitude of festivals and celebrations.

Capital and major centres
The capital and by far the largest city, Metro Manila, has a population of more than 10 million. Located in the northern region of Luzon, it is the capital and principal centre of government, commerce and education. Baguio City is five hours from Manila, in the Cordillera Mountains of Luzon. From March to May it experiences a population surge, and during Holy Week its population has been known to triple. Cebu City is the capital of the Visayas, at the centre of the Philippines’ major island group of 167 islands. Davao City on the lush island of Mindanao is one of the largest cities in the world in terms of land mass.

The people
The people are mostly of Malay stock with a sprinkling of Chinese, American, Spanish and Arab blood. Most of the population claims to be Christian, and 80 percent are Roman Catholic. Muslim communities make up around five percent of the population and most live in Mindanao and the Sulu Islands.

Nature
The Philippines has white sandy beaches, lush green forests, mountain peaks and clear blue waters teeming with marine life. An incredible 80 percent of tropical fish sold worldwide are from the Philippines. The yellow flowering narra is the national tree of the Philippines.

The nipa palm is seen all over the country and the orchid could also stake its claim as the national flower, with almost 1000 endemic species, including the Waling-Waling variety of Mindanao. There are only about 100 of the magnificent haribon (Philippine Eagles) around Mt Apo, and the once abundant dugong are now rare, however, small gravity-defying geckos can be seen everywhere. The tarier, one of the smallest primates in the world, can be found in Corella in Bohol.

The sights
Popular with travellers are Boracay and Banaue, but the Philippines offers a host of other attractions, such as Camiguin’s rainforest and reef, Cebu’s beaches, sunsets over Lake Sebu, the burial caves of Sagada and a trip to Mt Pinatubo which erupted violently in 1991.

When the Spanish moved the capital of the Philippines from Cebu to Manila in 1571, they built Intramuros, the Walled City, as the seat of Church and State. This fortress complex is well worth a visit.

Another important landmark is the theme park Nayong Filipino, which has small-scale replicas of Bicol’s Mayon Volcano, the Banaue rice terraces, the Chocolate Hills of Bohol and Magellan’s Cross in Cebu.

Clusters of houses, representing architecture from a mix of regions, are grouped together in miniature villages now located in Clark, Pampanga. The Banaue Rice Terraces of the Ifugao Province have been dubbed the eighth wonder of the world, covering an incredible 22 400 kilometres.

Palawan, called the country’s ‘last frontier’, is a mini archipelago of virgin islands, home to rare species of flora and fauna. The Tabon Caves in southern Palawan are acknowledged as the ‘cradle of civilisation’ of the Philippines.

At Calautit Island, a wildlife sanctuary has been breeding African animals for nearly 20 years. It is home to around 500 animals, including giraffes, zebras and gazelles to name a few. In the Visayas, Bohol is a small island famous for its Chocolate Hills—more than 1000 oval limestone mounds spread throughout the towns of Carmen, Batuan and Saglayan.

In Aklan province in the Western Visayas there are two attractions worth noting: the Aklan River Safari and Boracay Island.

Where to stay
The Philippines offers a wide range of accommodation for all budgets. Metro Manila has everything visitors need from deluxe hotels and serviced apartments to hostels and homestays.

Getting around
The variety of bus services running are generally very economical, and departures are frequent, although buses sometimes leave early if they’re full. Making a reservation is recommended. There are more
buses in the morning, as people try to beat the heat.

Roads often have potholes and it takes a while to get anywhere but hire cars, taxis and the colourful and individually decorated jeepneys are easily found. Although jeepneys are the cheapest way to negotiate the traffic, they do tend to be driven at an alarming and erratic speed and are not air-conditioned. The elevated Light Rail Transit (LRT) system, also known as Metrorail provides the best and most efficient way to travel from Baclaran in the south to Caloocan City in the north.

The Metro Railway Transit (MRT) traverses the length of Edsa and connects Quezon City to Pasay City, passing through the major arteries of Makati’s financial district.

Food and entertainment
Filipino cuisine has Chinese, Malay and Spanish influences, making dining quite an adventure. Rice is the staple, usually served with meat and vegetables that are fried or sautéed.

Soups of every kind are popular, as is the delicacy, crispy pata (deep fried pork knuckle).

Adobo—stewed chicken, pork or squid pieces in vinegar—is a national dish, and inihaw (grilled fish or meat), fresh or fried lumpia (spring rolls), siopao (Chinese-style pork or chicken bun) and pancit (noodles) are widely eaten. Gata (coconut milk) is used in just about everything!

While most dishes are heavier on the meat than vegetables, the country’s vast coastlines ensure Filipino restaurants also offer an abundance of seafood: shrimp, rock lobster, crab, oysters, squid and fish. A wide range of international food is available from fast food outlets and fine dining restaurants. For dessert, halo-halo is made from crushed ice mixed with sweets and fruits, and smothered in evaporated milk and topped with ice cream.

For something less indulgent try fresh fruits such as mango, pineapple and papaya.

In Metro Manila there are nightly show bands, cultural/folk dance presentations, and in some places bands of local singers play original Filipino music.

Activities
The incredible mountainous landscape of the Philippines offers many appealing climbs including Mayon, a 2450 metre active volcano in Bicol, Southern Luzon which takes several days to climb. Mt Taal, in Tagaytay, described as the smallest and most dangerous volcano in the world, is one hour from Manila. You can also explore Mt Pinatubo’s crater in Zambales as well as the Philippines’ highest peak, Mt Apo. There are wonderful trekking opportunities along Luzon’s Pacific Coast, especially in Bicol and Quezon provinces.

Philippine waters are attracting growing numbers of scuba divers, especially at Boracay, Bohol, Palawan and Apo. The Camsur Watersports Complex in Camarines Sur offers international standard wakeboarding facilities. Canoeists can shoot the rapids in Pagsanjan, featured in the film Apocalypse Now. The Philippines has some of the finest golf courses in the world, or there’s bird watching, cave exploration and photo safaris. History buffs will enjoy exploring the museums, the century-old colonial monuments and churches.

Climate
March to May is hot and dry with temperatures ranging from 22°C to 32°C. June to October is rainy and November to February is cool with temperatures from 22°C to 28°C. Light casual garments are recommended. Warmer clothes are needed for the mountain regions.

Currency
Philippine peso is the local currency. Most foreign currencies are easily exchanged in the cities. Outside Manila, Philippine pesos for payment are preferred. Tipping is generally expected, the standard practice is 10 percent of the total bill.
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Palawan, Philippines
The Best Island in the World*

* Voted by readers of Condé Nast Traveler

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**LUZON & MANILA**

The city is a mix of old and new, of traditions and modern customs, of quaint street stalls and modern shopping malls.

Luzon, where Manila is located, is the largest island in the Philippines and many of the provinces are just a few hours drive from the city. Northern Luzon is rich in panoramic views, green landscapes and old Spanish houses. Nicknamed the Summer Capital, Baguio City is a cool climate escape for Manila’s wealthy. The neighbouring city of La Trinidad, the provincial capital just north of the city, has some interesting sights. You can visit the vegetable market, climb Mt Pulag or see the well-preserved Kabayan mummies from burial caves in the north. Visit Asin, a woodcarving village with a hot spring swimming hole, natural streams and relaxing steam bath. A side trip to the tranquil mountaintop town of Sagada offers beautiful scenery and a cool climate. Its claim to fame is the hanging coffins, seen on cliff sides surrounding the town and in limestone caves.

Hugging the northwestern slopes of Luzon are the provincial towns of Ilocos Norte and Ilocos Sur. There is a strong Spanish influence in Vigan Ilocos Sur, with 16th century Spanish houses lining the streets of the old section and a museum full of Spanish treasures.

Antipolo is the centre of the May-time pilgrimage, while Angono is home to the Higantes Festival, held in November, when gigantic papier-mâché figures of men and women are paraded down the streets.

Northern Palawan is home to some of the most diverse ecosystems in the country. The El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area showcases extraordinary flora and fauna, including mammals, reptiles, and birds that are abundant in the area. The dramatic landscape boasts of soaring limestone cliffs standing guard over crystal-clear waters, forests over limestone, and beaches with powdery white sand. Dramatic lagoons, mysterious caves, and colorful reefs are among the facets for Bacuit Bay in El Nido and Taytay Bay.

A couple of hours by boat from El Nido are the snorkelling havens of Simisu Island and Cathedral Cave, Snake Island and Cudugman Cave. South Palawan is quite different to the north. Quezon is situated around 100 kilometres from Puerto Princesa, and is the nearest town to the archeologically interesting Tabon Caves, a half-hour boat ride away. Quezon is famous for its Pahiyas Festival celebrated in the towns of Lucban and Sariaya in mid-May.

**Manila**

Manila has a population of around 10 million. The city is a mix of old and new, of traditions and modern customs, of quaint street stalls and modern shopping malls, of excellent museums and happening restaurants, bars and nightclubs.

Although the city spreads a great distance along Manila Bay, the main places of interest are fairly central, concentrated just south of the Pasig River. Immediately south is the fortress of Intramuros (literally ‘within the walls’), once the preserve of the ruling classes.

The Manila Cathedral and San Agustin Church are two of the oldest churches in the country. Nearby, Casa Manila is a beautifully restored Spanish colonial home. The Cultural Centre of the Philippines is the central venue for all the diverse arts of the provinces, including ballet, concerts and stage plays. Within the complex is the stately Coconut Palace, made of materials from the coconut tree and other indigenous materials. This is also a great place to view the spectacular sunset across Manila Bay.

At the huge Chinese Cemetery in Santa Cruz, tombs are fitted with crystal chandeliers, air-conditioning, kitchens and flushing toilets, to ensure comfort on the trip to paradise.
FAIRMONT MAKATI

A five-star luxury hotel in Makati City, Fairmont Makati is known for its prestigious address in the central business district of Manila.

The hotel is situated in the most sought-after location, in the centre of the commercial Makati business district, within walking distance to the Philippine Stock Exchange, Ayala Museum and Greenbelt, the city's most stylish shopping area.

An urban sanctuary housed in the most stunning tower complex ever to grace the city, the luxurious Fairmont Makati has 280 elegantly appointed guestrooms and suites offering an unparalleled view of the Makati skyline. The tower housing Fairmont Makati is also home to Raffles Makati, a 32-room, all-suite hotel, and Raffles Residences, featuring 237 one-to four-bedroom residences for both short and long-term stays. Raffles is a sister brand under the parent company, Fairmont Raffles Hotels International.

World of gastronomy

With its Malay, Asian and Spanish influences, Filipino cuisine is beloved as the original fusion food. In this spirit, Fairmont Makati offers a range of exceptional venues to meet the unique tastes of every guest. Spectrum is an all-day dining restaurant where delicious dishes are prepared right before your eyes. Café Macaron is a pastry boutique offering signature cakes and pastries for a delightful treat. The highlight at Fairmont Lounge is afternoon tea with a modern Filipino twist. Long Bar, styled after the original one in Raffles Hotel, Singapore offers Singapore Slings, Makati Luxury Slings and other signature cocktails. Writers Bar is styled as a library and serves traditional afternoon tea.

Fairmont’s signature Willow Stream Spa is one of the city’s most luxurious with five, fully equipped treatment rooms, hair salon, full-service nail studio, a mineral pool and outdoor swimming pool. Adjacent to the spa is the fitness centre that offers state-of-the-art equipment and a panoramic view of the Makati cityscape.

Tempting fine restaurants

There is 1700-square metres of versatile meeting and function space including a large ballroom that can accommodate up to 720 diners. Additional meeting rooms for 30 to 40 guests are also available. Day or night, the best of Makati City awaits. Fine restaurants tempt with local flavours while shops and boutiques offer the latest trends and a glamorous nightlife pulsates through chic clubs and ultra-sleek lounges. The nearby beaches offer sun, sea and sand and also within easy reach are countless historical and cultural attractions.
RAFFLES MAKATI

Unrivalled charm, endlessly enchanting with understated elegance, refined and contemporary luxury; Raffles Makati is a legendary oasis of calm and sophistication nestled in the most prestigious address of Makati Avenue in the financial and cultural hub of the Makati district.

The hotel is within walking distance to fashionable boutiques, fine dining, countless historical and cultural attractions, and a glamorous nightlife are within easy reach.

The 32 elegant, spacious suites are designed to be contemporary yet reflective of the local cultures and offer a sense of warmth and comfort with wooden flooring, oriental carpets, state-of-the-art technology, high speed internet, and floor-to-ceiling windows that command impressive views of the cityscape. Suite configurations include the Raffles Executive Suite, Raffles Junior Suite, and the stunning Raffles Presidential Suite.

Combining the best of local culture and dishes from around the world, each of the hotel’s restaurants and bars has its own unique atmosphere. For a feel of Raffles tradition, the Writers Bar offers afternoon tea in a parlour-like atmosphere. Being the favourite nook of notable authors, the Writers Bar is the venue of book launches and readings. Inspired by its namesake, the Long Bar in Raffles Singapore, it is the home of the Singapore Sling and bespoke Raffles 1915 Gin. Sip on signature cocktails surrounded by Philippine art in a Malayan plantation inspired setting. Miréo, a Provencal-inspired brasserie dining experience unique to Manila, is an ode to the famed French coast and countryside. The Mireio Terrace boasts panoramic views of the city. Also found in the same complex is Spectrum, an all-day dining offering a gastronomic of cuisine from across the globe. The contemporary Café Macaron serves freshly prepared sandwiches, cakes, and pastries for a delightful treat. Enjoy something light from the Fairmont Lounge menu, while the poolside bar will tempt you with its seasonal menu and beverages.

The hotel is the perfect location for weddings, meetings and events with a diverse choice of meeting and dining options. A dedicated team is available to meet all your needs and make your special event unforgettable. The luxurious spa retreat offers signature treatments designed to promote inner peace and serenity, complete with an open-air swimming pool overlooking the vibrant city. Raffles Makati is situated within a 30-floor tower that also houses the Raffles Residences with 237 one to four bedroom apartments and the 280-room Fairmont Makati.

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Shangri-La at the Fort, Manila operates on a simple yet powerful philosophy of Shangri-La hospitality from warm, caring people. With its lifestyle hubs that reshape living, dining and shopping experiences, it is truly a dynamic destination for contemporary lifestyle and accessible luxury.

The development features the Shangri-La Hotel and serviced residences; Horizon Homes, a collection of distinct homes situated on the top floors plus retail shops and a comprehensive lifestyle and leisure health club.

The 576 contemporary and spacious guestrooms and suites offer unparalleled city and bay views with sophisticated design elements that include accents of marble and silk, with light Italian wood that complements the cityscape. The hotel's 46 elegant suites are among the finest in the city.

Kerry Sports Manila is the city's most comprehensive indoor lifestyle and recreation destination, with an expanse of over 8,000 square metres and two dedicated floors of fitness facilities comprising an NBA-grade indoor basketball court, two tennis courts, two squash courts, an outdoor lap pool with an entertainment and dining area, extensive gym facilities, exercise studios, and a wellness spa with eight treatment rooms. The complex also houses Adventure Zone, a 1,000 square metre multilevel indoor playground for children 12 years old and below.

Explore a variety of innovative cuisines from around the world with seven dining concepts. High Street Cafe is a modern-day marketplace concept. High Street Lounge serves a wide selection of teas and beverages in a refined modern setting. Canton Road offers Cantonese and Huaiyang cuisine, while Raging Bull Chophouse & Bar offers dry-aged steaks and Western grilled items.

Samba Poolside offers a collection of South American dishes and Raging Bull Burgers serves the finest handmade burgers for diners on the go. The seventh and final dining concept is scheduled to open soon.

With one of the largest portfolios of conference and meeting venues in the city, the hotel can suit any occasion. The pillarless Grand Ballroom can accommodate up to 1,650 guests and the junior ballroom, the Bonifacio Hall, can accommodate up to 715 guests. A total of 21 multifunction rooms are available on multiple floors, defining versatility and flexibility to meet all event needs.
Voted World’s Best Island in 2013 and 2015, Palawan, often referred to as the last ecological frontier of the Philippines, has much to offer its visitors. Officially the Province of Palawan, it is an island province that is located in the Mimaropa region.

The biggest island in the Philippines, Palawan Island is still largely undeveloped. It is part of an archipelago with more than 1700 islands on the western side of the country and its eco diversity includes grasslands, jungles, mountains and pristine beaches.

The northern part is characterised by incredible clear waters, white beaches that line the coast and many species of flora and fauna.

One of the most visited places, El Nido, is known for its sandy beaches, coral reefs and is the gateway to the Bacuit archipelago, a group of islands with steep limestone cliffs. The area has many dive sites, including Dilumacad Island’s long tunnel leading to an underwater cavern.

When El Nido is crowded during the peak seasons and you prefer a quieter environment, Taytay is a great place to visit. It has loads of things for visitors to do. You can swim in the many hidden lagoons, kayak on beautiful Lake Manguao, swim around the beautiful waterfalls, snorkel or island hop.

The capital of the province is the coastal city of Puerto Princesa. It is a great base from where visitors can take boat trips through the huge limestone caves as well as the underground river in Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park. Around the city are great dive sites that are only five to 40 minutes from the beach inside Puerto Princesa Bay with the closest being White Beach and Red Cliff. They offer slopes and walls just seven metres under the surface where colourful fish, turtles and rays can be seen. Not to be missed is a visit to the 19th-century Immaculate Concepcion Cathedral.

The cheapest option for getting around Palawan is by local jeepneys and tricycles. Getting from one island to another is possible with daily boat trips available. Car and van rentals are also available.
Sheridan Beach Resort & Spa is the premier luxury resort located on the world’s top island, Palawan.

Nestled between towering mountain ranges and the pristine shore of Sabang Beach, this charming world-class resort is the first green resort in the Philippines to practice environmental sustainability in one of Palawan’s most protected areas. Here the adventure of a lifetime awaits guests who want to explore the rich landscape that Sabang offers.

The resort is only 15 minutes away by boat to one of the New Seven Wonders of Nature, the Puerto Princesa Underground River. Navigate through the underground river and experience first-hand one of the most complex cave systems in the world. Traverse the lush green jungle on an ATV ride, zipline 800 metres across the Sabang Sea or discover mangrove forests teeming with wildlife on a paddle boat tour.

The resort also offers exclusive beach hopping to Sabang’s most pristine beaches. Glamour sailing is a thrill as you hop on board one of the resort’s sailboats and cruise along the coastline. Have fun in the sun snorkelling and kayaking and for the more adventurous, board rentals are available.

Spacious accommodation includes 95 rooms and suites with contemporary interiors and local touches, designed for the ultimate comfort during your stay. An additional 73 new rooms are set to open in mid 2017.

Dining options include the South Sea Restaurant with an open-air design that commands magnificent ocean views. The majority of ingredients are sourced directly from the resort’s very own Sheridan Organic Farm & Eco-Village, the largest organic farm in Palawan. Enjoy the cozy yet elegant ambience in the Lobby Lounge with signature coffee and the best selection of desserts and pastries.

The Blue Bar serves refreshing cocktails, juices and other beverages or swim up and enjoy a cool drink or two at the Wet ’n Dry Pool Bar at the largest pool in Palawan.

End the day with a relaxing massage at the Sheridan Nature Spa, a wellness haven that is based on the holistic concept of health and beauty traditions from Asia combined with a touch of modern trends.

For a dream wedding in a perfect setting, Sheridan Beach Resort & Spa’s prime location in romantic Sabang draws couples from around the world to exchange or renew their vows and create a lifetime of memories amidst the sun, sand and sea.
El Nido Resorts is set in the northern part of the Palawan province, renowned for picturesque landscapes, mesmerising limestone cliffs, pristine beaches and marine sanctuaries teeming with innumerable species of tropical fish and coral.

**Apulit Island**
Located in Taytay, Palawan, Apulit Island offers an idyllic getaway for those in search of a tropical paradise. The sprawling resort is set within a pristine cove with a wide expanse of white-sand beach lined with coconut palm trees with a backdrop of sheer limestone cliffs. The resort has 50 water cottages that are built on stilts perched above the sea with unobstructed views of the bay and surrounding islands. The resort is remote and activity filled, catering to the sporty and adventurous.

**Miniloc Island**
Built in traditional Filipino design, Miniloc Island is tucked away in a beautiful cove and surrounded by gardens and limestone cliffs. It has 50 cottages with thatched roofs and furnished with Filipino crafts and materials. At the resort’s house reef, you can snorkel alongside 1.5-metre jackfish and other colourful tropical fish. The island is the perfect destination for those in search of fun activities in a spectacular natural environment.

**Lagen Island**
Set against the captivating limestone cliffs and spectacular views of the verdant forest landscape, the newly refurbished eco-sanctuary Lagen Island is designed with whitewashed cottages, surrounded by bursts of red and white bougainvillas and tropical foliage that creates harmony between nature and the island resort. The island has 50 cottages with a view of the lush forest or the enchanting Bacuit Bay with its spellbinding sunsets. It is also a sought-after destination not only for island-inspired nuptials but also the favoured setting for quaint corporate gatherings.

**Pangulasian Island**
Also known as the “Island of the Sun”, Pangulasian Island has breathtaking views of both sunrises and sunsets. The resort is set fronting a pristine beach against a backdrop of tropical forest with a marine sanctuary right at its doorstep. It has a total of 42 villas that blend contemporary Filipino and cutting-edge ‘green’ design matched with luxurious amenities and impeccable friendly service.

In 2015, El Nido, Palawan was voted Best Beach in the World, while Palawan has been voted as the Best Island in the World for two consecutive years (2014-2015).
Within this stunning island group is Boracay Island, home to White Beach, which is considered the best tropical beach in the world.

The Visayas is the Philippines’ main island group. Situated to the east of Palawan, and between Luzon in the north and Mindanao in the south, there are multitudes of islands in the Visayas, large and small.

The province of Cebu, probably the most well-known destination, comprises six of the 11 major islands in the country, and 161 smaller islands. Cebu retains much of its Spanish heritage in its historical and cultural attractions. It also provides an idyllic starting point for island hopping holidays, many within a couple of hours’ drive from downtown.

Cebu City is a major gateway to the Visayas and, being the oldest city in the Philippines, it is often referred to as the ‘Queen City of the South’. Cebu’s five main cities are Cebu City, Toledo, Danao, Mandaue and Lapu-Lapu (on Mactan Island). Cebu City is home to the Basilica Minore del Santo Nino, the oldest fort in the country, Fort San Pedro, and the restored 19th century home Casa Gorordo.

Mandaue on the coast is the manufacturing centre, with the San Miguel brewery, Coca Cola plant, and a number of other factories from glass to rattan furniture and handicrafts.

While in the Visayas it is a must to visit Bohol, the tenth largest island in the Philippines, famous for its Chocolate Hills comprising more than 1000 oval limestone mounds. A cruise down the Loboc River passes through the towns of Loboc, Loay and Bilar, which has a man-made forest that is home to the tarsier, one of the world’s smallest primates. Like Cebu, Bohol has a range of resorts, especially in Panglao, and also boasts dive spots. Iloilo in the western Visayas is an hour from Manila by plane. The city has wide, attractive streets and a number of historical monuments including churches and ancestral houses.

The island of Negros, wedged between Cebu and Panay, is divided into two provinces, Negros Occidental and Negros Oriental, each with an impressive number of well-maintained historic buildings. The province of Aklan, also in the western Visayas, lays claim to two attractions—the fantastic religious and festive zeal of the Ati-Atihan Festival, the nation’s week-long mardi gras held in January—and Boracay Island.

The seven-kilometre long Boracay is widely thought of as the ultimate island in the Philippines. On Boracay is White Beach with fine white sand and clear water. White Beach is considered by many to be the best tropical beach in the world.
Bluewater Resorts, a wholly Filipino-owned group of resorts, showcases the best of Filipino culture combined with modern luxuries.

**Bluewater Maribago**
A lush seven hectare tropical paradise, Bluewater Maribago is only 10 kilometres from the Mactan Cebu International Airport. The resort is one of only 10 ASEAN Green Hotels in the Philippines for its sustainable and green hotel practices. A range of well-appointed accommodations offer all the comforts of home. Choose from luxurious Royal Bungalows, located on the beachfront, quaint and cosy native-styled Deluxe Rooms, and Spa Suites which are perfect for those who want to unwind and indulge in spa treatments.

Be spoiled for choice with an impressive range of restaurants and bars where each meal is uniquely prepared using the freshest ingredients.

There is an abundance of activities available including jet-skiing, scuba diving, windsurfing, paddle boating, sailing, kayaking, snorkelling, island hopping, and fishing excursions. Or indulge in a selection of wellness treatments at the Amuma Spa.

**Bluewater Sumilon**
The only hotel on the island, Bluewater Sumilon Island Resort is ideal for those seeking complete privacy and relaxation. Deluxe and Premier Deluxe Rooms are well appointed and offer private verandas with sea views. Honeymoon and Family Villas offer secluded havens complete with a private dipping pool. Glamping is a great alternative to traditional eco-friendly camping. The experience offers pre-pitched tents with electricity and accessibility to the resort.

The Pavilion houses the resort’s restaurant. It serves a delectable fare of local and international cuisines beneath the octagonal *nipa* thatched roofing. The island beckons you to indulge in its crystal clear waters and dive into the vibrant sanctuary beneath. Snorkelling is a great way to view aquatic life. Picnic, walk along the beach or go kayaking at the natural lagoon teeming with high mangroves.

**Bluewater Panglao**
Embrace the charm of island living at Bluewater Panglao. Spacious, elegant guestrooms surround the main swimming pool. The one and two-bedroom villas are perfect options for couples and come complete with a private dipping pool. The Family Loft is spread over two-stories offering plenty of space. All guest accommodations feature thoughtful amenities to ensure an unparalleled sense of comfort. The hotel’s outdoor pool, garden, private beach, and massages are an ideal way to relax and unwind after a busy day.

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Eskaya Beach Resort & Spa

is a beautiful resort and spa on Pangalo Island which is located at the southernmost tip of Bohol in the Philippines.

This sprawling property covers 16 hectares. Topography of the resort is varied. It has a gradually ascending cliff, flat land, a ravine, caves and commanding views of the sea. The higher ground of the resort boasts views of the mountain covered with lush vegetation. Down towards the beachfront is a long stretch of white, powdery sand that stretches for five kilometres, 300 metres of which is part of Eskaya Beach Resort & Spa. The name Eskaya refers to the only known indigenous people of Bohol.

Luxurious Filipino-style

The resort is boutique in style which accounts for its exclusivity. Architecture of the building is decidedly Filipino with a splash of modern amenities. The 24 thatched villas or balai in the dialect, are single detached. These have been built with sturdy construction materials with an emphasis on the use of indigenous materials such as bamboo and cogon. All accommodations offer modern amenities such as telephone, flat screen TV with satellite system, DVD player, mini bar, tea and coffee maker, two-person whirlpool tub as well as an outdoor bathroom and a private landscaped garden. Each of the villas boasts its own private swimming pool.

The focal point of the resort is the infinity swimming pool that blends harmoniously with the sea.

Guests have several dining options at Eskaya. Facing the infinity swimming pool and overlooking the royal blue sea beyond, Lantawan Restaurant has a cool feeling and a warm ambience. You can dine under the moon and the stars, alfresco, or simply enjoy the warm atmosphere of the restaurant. A bonfire and barbecue by the beach is a more casual dining option.

The caring staff are sure to make your stay more worthwhile and memorable. Their simplicity and graciousness will make you feel relaxed and pampered.

Relax and unwind

Pamper your body and soul at Handuraw Spa. Handuraw is a Visayan word that evokes imagination and sweet memories. Situated on top of a cliff overlooking the vast sea, it has two treatment rooms that open to the garden and the sea beyond and offers a menu of relaxing treatments.

Visit Eskaya where you will be guaranteed the holiday of your dreams.
After undergoing a major renovation of rooms and facilities, Bohol Beach Club has opened its doors once again. Even the most discerning travellers will be delighted with the new rooms and suites as well as the modern facilities.

Far from the maddening crowds and unwanted distractions, Bohol Beach Club boasts the best private beach on the island with pristine waters and powdery, white sand. Peace, serenity and privacy are guaranteed with the well-designed resort maximising space as much as possible.

The new Bohol Beach Club has a total of 88 rooms consisting of 80 Deluxe Rooms and eight Beachview Suites. All of the Deluxe Rooms have a commanding view of the swimming pool and beach while all of the suites have a unique view of the beach and Bohol Sea. Rooms are spacious and bright, designed with modern colours yet thoughtfully preserve a Filipino touch with the prolific use of wooden furniture and local handicrafts. The generously sized rooms include a choice of bed configurations, flat screen TV, separate shower and tub as well as a private veranda with deck chairs. Complimentary Wi-Fi access, mini bar and premium toiletries are just some of the features you can expect at the resort.

For guests with special needs, easy access rooms are available in both rooms and suites. Pet friendly rooms are available in the deluxe category which is wonderful for those travelling with a small pet. Tour and transportation requirements can be provided by the resort. All transfers to and from the airport, car hire with driver, guided tours and vehicle rental requirements from cars to buses will be handled with ease.

Bohol Beach Club continues to boast having some of the best food on the island. Menus have been thoughtfully prepared and the new kitchen offers a wide variety of traditional Filipino fare as well as international cuisine.

Relax over coffee in the coffee shop and don’t forget to try the amazing BBC burger and BBC ice cream. A range of cocktails and fresh fruit shakes as well as a variety of wines will keep you refreshed. If you prefer, you can dine in your room with room service available.

With impeccable service that comes from the heart, the new Bohol Beach Club is about the whole experience and this is what delivers the perfect holiday.
Lying virtually on the equator, at the centre of South-East Asia, Singapore is a gateway for the millions of tourists who visit the region each year and an exciting destination in its own right, its colonial past not lost to modern development.

The people
There is a diversity of races and a variety of religions in Singapore. Chinese make up the majority of the population and the remainder is a blend of Malay, Indian and ethnic groups including Eurasians, the descendants of families from the former Portuguese colonies of Malacca in Malaysia and Goa in India. There are also small Arab, Armenian and Jewish communities. The four official languages of Singapore are Mandarin, Malay, Tamil and English. English is widespread and is the language that unites the various ethnic groups.

Nature
Singapore island measures only 42 kilometres from east to west and 23 kilometres from north to south. Despite its dense population, over 40 percent of the land is covered with parklands and four percent is forest.

Minutes from Orchard Road, Singapore’s Botanic Gardens sprawl over 54 hectares, with manicured gardens, primary jungle and a huge variety of native and exotic plants. Cultivating orchids is big business in Singapore, and National Orchid Garden at Botanic Gardens provides a year-round colourful collection, showcasing the largest display of tropical orchids in the world.

The Bukit Timah Nature Reserve, just 12 kilometres from the city, is a tropical rainforest and wildlife haven. The 163-metre Bukit Timah Hill is the highest point in Singapore, and a popular summit walk. Comprising 87 hectares of conserved wetlands, the Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve is home to a myriad of plants and animals, and a stop for migratory birds.

The sights
The Merlion (a lion’s head with a fish tail), a water-spouting statue, has become the symbol of the nation and now stands at its new location at the head of the Singapore River. For a great view of Singapore, head to Fort Canning Hill. Worth visiting is the Asian Civilisations Museum at Empress Place and the Singapore Art Museum with its collection of contemporary Singaporean and ASEAN art. The Singapore National Museum is also a must, telling the history of Singapore and her people in cutting edge interactive multimedia displays.

The sprawling, sinister-looking Changi Prison was built by the British, used by the Japanese in World War II and is still a prison today.

Long before the Europeans arrived, Arab traders plied the coastlines of the Malay Peninsula and Indonesia, bringing with them the teachings of Islam. The Arab District remains a Malay enclave. There are few cars, tiny shops, and a slower pace of life. Chinatown is a busy place full of restaurants, shops, temples and herbalists, squeezed into an area of two square kilometres. The Chinatown Heritage Centre gives visitors an opportunity to see how the Chinese immigrants of yesteryear lived and worked in Singapore. Little India is also a hive of activity. Sit back on a trishaw and soak up the atmosphere as you pass ubiquitous gold and sari stores, or even have your fortune told by a parrot.

Less known by visitors is Singapore’s Peranakan culture—a mixture of Malay and Chinese traditions. Visit Katong and view the beautifully restored shophouses, traditional ornate jewellery and clothing before dining on traditional dumplings.

The beautifully landscaped open-concept Singapore Zoo is a highlight of any trip to Singapore. As well as elephant, chimpanzee and sea lion shows, you can enjoy a jungle breakfast with animal stars. The nearby Night Safari is the world’s
first safari park for nocturnal animals, home to some 2500 animals spread over 40 hectares of secondary jungle. If time allows, make the popular day trip to Sentosa Island—it has beaches, walking trails, golf courses, restaurants, hotels and fun family attractions including Resorts World, encompassing Universal Studios Singapore and Marine Life Park, the largest oceanarium in the world.

Singapore is so close to Malaysia and Indonesia, it is possible to do day tours to places like Johor Bahru, and Malacca. The Indonesian islands of Bintan and Batam are just a short boat ride across the Singapore Strait. These islands are situated in the Riau Archipelago and are close enough for Singaporeans to enjoy a late night meal at one of the restaurants on the islands and return the same evening to Singapore. The islands conveniently use both Singapore currency and Indonesian rupiah. Batam is a duty free zone so you can purchase alcohol, perfume and chocolates as well as Indonesian handicrafts at the ferry terminal.

Where to stay
From the luxurious to backpacker hostels, there is a range of accommodation readily available in Singapore. Traditional and historic or high-rise with every mod-con, small boutique hotel or world-class resort, they’re all here, mostly found around the CBD, Orchard Road and marina areas.

Getting around
Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) is the most convenient way to travel, with trains running every three to eight minutes from 6am to midnight. Singapore has a good bus network with frequent services and a ready supply of taxis, all metered, and available for hourly hire. Taxi Tour Guides are also a fantastic way to see the sights of Singapore. Taxis displaying the Tour Guide stickers are professionally trained guides as well as drivers. Hiring cars or bumboats (motorised boats that ply the Singapore River) is easy, and there are regular ferry services and luxurious junk tours. Tri-shaws have disappeared from Singapore’s main streets, but can still be found operating in Chinatown, Little India and back streets. Agree on a fare beforehand.

Food and entertainment
Singapore is the food capital of Asia. Chinese, Indian, Malay, Indonesian and Western foods are all on offer, and some of the tastiest creations are those from the colourful hawker (street) stalls. Peranakan or Nonya cooking is a local variation on Chinese and Malay food, mixing Chinese ingredients with local spices such as lemongrass and coconut cream. The spicy, coconut-based soup laksa is a popular Nonya dish. Singapore is also a great place to discover exotic tropical fruits.

Activities
Walking is one of the best ways to see all that the compact city district offers, while sporty types will enjoy golf, computerised bowling alleys, archery, canoeing along the East Coast and the lagoon at Sentosa Island. Nature-lovers can visit parks and trek through reserves, and aquatic sport enthusiasts can waterski, windsurf, jet-ski, and wakeboard.

Shopping
In Singapore, shopping is not just a casual activity to fill in time; it is the mainstay of the culture. Orchard Road offers a dazzling array of stores, and then there’s Chinatown, Arab Street and Little India—home to the Mustafa Centre—Singapore’s first 24-hour department store. The east coast suburb of Katong is 15 minutes from town, and the yuppie haunt, Holland Village, 10 minutes away.

Climate
The climate is hot and tropical year round. Cool, loose fitting summer clothes are recommended.

Currency
Singapore dollars and cents. Tipping is not generally expected at hotels or restaurants as they have a 10 percent service charge.
Retreat to an oasis of tranquility, and enjoy the comforts of home at Grand Hyatt Singapore.

This luxury hotel is perfectly situated on Singapore’s famed shopping strip, Orchard Road, which features a wide variety of shops, outstanding restaurants and cultural and family centered activities, just a 30-minute drive from Singapore’s Changi Airport.

Luxuriously fitted
Considered one of Singapore’s best luxury hotels, Grand Hyatt Singapore’s spacious 677 guestrooms and suites are fitted with every modern convenience required for a comfortable stay, such as generous work desks, luxurious beds and elegant baths. A selection of elegantly designed suites include the Presidential, Premier, Grand Duplex, Grand Corporate and Grand Suites that offer guests a host of additional benefits including privileged access to the Grand Club Lounge where complimentary continental breakfast and evening cocktails are served as well as exclusive check-in and check-out services.

Sheer indulgence
The lifestyle club, Damai, which means ‘peace’ in Malay, offers a modern spa experience with first-class spa facilities and a fitness centre that is dedicated to wellness enthusiasts. For sheer indulgence, guests can treat themselves to one of the signature body and face treatments or traditional massages that blend the cultural healing philosophies, techniques and traditions of Chinese, Malay, Indian and European cultures as practiced in Singapore. A sauna, steam room and hot and cold plunge pools are available. Recreation facilities also include a swimming pool, tennis and badminton courts.

Spoiled for choice
Embark on a culinary adventure with Grand Hyatt Singapore’s restaurants and bars. From contemporary Western and Asian cuisine at mezza9, popular local delights at StraitsKitchen or the poolside Oasis, to hearty Italian fare at Pete’s Place or afternoon tea at 10 SCOTTS, you will be spoiled for choice by the wide selection available.

Guests can also treat themselves at the glass-enclosed martini bar and party all night long at BRIX nightclub.

Whether you choose to spend a casual evening on a Night Safari or explore Singapore’s vibrant nightlife, you will find everything you want close to Grand Hyatt Singapore.
Sri Lanka is steeped in heritage yet its essence is also a result of a myriad of influences from three colonial rulers. The Portuguese, Dutch and the British interacted with Arab, Chinese and Malay merchants, a combination that is amply reflected throughout the country by way of customs, cuisine and architecture.

With a history that dates back over 2000 years, Sri Lanka is home to some of the best preserved Asian monuments and showcases no fewer than eight UNESCO World Heritage sites, all remarkably preserved to surpass more well-known world-class attractions. To this day Sri Lanka’s centuries old heritage lives on, in the culture and the way of life of the Sri Lankan people. The rich tapestry of cultural practice, beliefs and the traditional way of life renews and revives this island nation’s historic ties, creating an oasis of cultural richness in the modern day.

Sri Lanka has been known by many names. The early Europeans in Asia knew it as Zelian or Seilan, the British as Ceylon, and it has also been called the Teardrop of India, Resplendent Isle, Island of Dharma and Pearl of the Orient. Colombo, the commercial capital has lots of open spaces and gracious colonial buildings.

The governing capital was shifted in recent years to Sri Jayewardenepura, 15 minutes from Colombo. Other major cities include Jaffna, Kandy and Galle. Anuradhapura is Sri Lanka’s first capital and the most important of Sri Lanka’s ancient cities.

Nature

The southern half of Sri Lanka is dominated by rugged hills, while the north is mostly a large plain from the edge of the hill country to the Jaffna peninsula.

The southwestern tropical rainforests are home to ebony, teak and spectacular orchids. The country has an abundance of fauna including elephants, monkeys, leopards, wild
boar, crocodiles, dugong and turtles. Flamingos and other migrating birds flock to the lagoons, wetlands and sanctuaries during the northern winter.

The sights
Sri Lanka offers over 1300 kilometres of idyllic sandy beaches. With its year-round summer and two different weather systems, whatever the time of year, there’s always a beach with sunshine and a choice of calm seas or steady surf depending on what you feel like. Beyond the stretch of calm, indigo-blue sea, a line of breaking waves marks the coral reef where recreational divers discover vividly coloured tropical fish and living corals.

The ancient city of Anuradhapura was the capital of the island for more than 1400 years with its Buddhist monuments and royal ruins dating back 2000 years. Some best known sites include the Sacred Bo-Tree grown from a sapling of the tree under which Buddha achieved enlightenment; the Thuparamaya Dagoba, built in the third century BC and believed to contain the right collarbone of Buddha; Ruvan, the oldest historically documented tree in the world; and the seven storey Lovamahapaya, also known as the Brazen Place.

The ancient city of Polonnaruwa is southeast of Anuradhapura while the amazing Sigiriya Rock Fortress is the site of a sixth century fortified palace. Built by an obsessed monarch in the fifth century, Sigiriya, or Lion Rock, is an astonishing feat of engineering and construction.

The most striking portion of Sigiriya, a terracotta and grey core of rock set in the cultural heart of Sri Lanka, rises a sheer 200 metres above a forested plain, its flattened summit sloping gently. A series of moats, ramparts and water gardens, remnants of an ancient city, spread out on two sides of the rock, with the remains of a pair of giant stone lion’s paws still guarding the staircase that leads to the summit, once occupied by a royal palace. The sacred tooth relic of the Buddha is preserved here at the Temple of the Tooth.

Visit Kandy, which is 116 kilometres from Colombo and built around a peaceful lake that is surrounded by picturesque hills. Enroute to Kandy, and about 90 kilometres from Colombo visit the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage, home to more than 109 elephants including adorable baby elephants that you can bathe and feed (with gigantic milk bottles!). Bathing time is 10am and 2pm, with feeding time an hour before.
Unawatuna Beach is a lovely semi-circular stretch of golden sands bordered with coconut palm trees located four kilometres southward around the coast of Galle. This is paradise for those who just want to enjoy to the silence of the sea and dive deep into the blue waters of the ocean. There is a reef protecting the beach making it perfectly safe for bathing. Unawatuna Beach was voted as one of the “Top 10 most beautiful beaches in the world” by the Discovery Channel and Mark Ellingham, the founder of Rough Guides.

Where to stay
Travelling in Sri Lanka is quite economical and travellers can experience five-star luxury at very reasonable prices in the countryside, while budget travellers can find delightful traditional ‘rest houses’.

Food and entertainment
Traditional Sri Lankan food is dominated by rice and curry, and is usually very spicy and hot. Colombo teems with restaurants that offer a spectrum of international gourmet and fusion cuisine. If the high-end fine dining isn’t what you are after, there a number of places offering good and reasonably priced fare. To experience local cuisine and roadside dining, Colombo offers numerous roadside cafes that serve up the tantalising kottu, a Sri Lankan favourite, and string hoppers (a tangle of rice flour noodles that are eaten with curry), pittu and rotti. Sinhalese dancing resembles Indian dance but the story is told using acrobatics and symbolism. Sri Lankan folklore is recreated in theatre using dance, masked drama, drumming and exorcism rituals.

Things to do
The southwestern coast offers good swimming beaches. The dive centre at Hikkaduwa is a good base to explore the reefs in the region such as Dodanduwa, Gintota and Ralagala. The Bentota River is ideal for sailing, windsurfing and waterskiing. Climb Adam’s Peak for a taste of trekking, or walk across the Horton Plains near Nuwara Eliya to see the 700-metre drop at World’s End.

Shopping
On the road linking Colombo and Kandy is a series of ‘monoculture’ villages. One sells clay pots while others sell brooms, roof tiles, cane chairs, cashews and coconuts. Not surprisingly, the most popular purchase is tea, sold in many flavours and all manner of gift containers and teapots.
Woodcarving, weaving, pottery and metalwork are all popular crafts and Sri Lanka is especially renowned for its gems and jewellery.

**Currency**

Sri Lankan rupee (SLR) consists of 100 cents. Tipping is appropriate and major credit cards are widely accepted in shops. Most hotels, restaurants and shopping centres accept credit cards.

**Climate**

The climate is tropical, hot and humid during the day, cooling off in the evening while in the hilly regions cooler temperatures prevail.

**Getting around**

Train travel is comfortable but slow, with modern coaches a better option. Local transport consists of buses, taxis and auto-rickshaws. Car and motorbike hire is becoming increasingly popular. Renting a car with a driver is not expensive, but it is important to negotiate beforehand.

**What to wear**

Cotton clothes are useful at any time of the year but you will need light woollens for the hills and waterproof clothing or an umbrella. Modest dress for women is advisable especially off the beach and when visiting religious sites.

Don’t forget comfortable shoes, sandals or trainers and cotton socks. If you are planning to trek and climb go prepared with suitable gear.

**Visa information**

Nationals from several countries who visit Sri Lanka for tourist purposes are exempt from visa requirements and automatically receive a free 30-day visa on arrival.
VIVANTA BY TAJ – BENTOTA

Blending harmoniously with the Indian Ocean, Vivanta by Taj – Bentota, Sri Lanka is delightfully located along one of the finest beaches on the South West coast of Sri Lanka.

Be welcomed into a haven of tranquility as you marvel at the high wood ceiling in the lobby of this five-star hotel in Sri Lanka, enjoy the welcoming views of the blue Indian Ocean and accept humble greetings of Ayubowan.

Enjoy the sweetest escape into paradise and step into complete luxury when you book a stay at this deluxe resort with a selection of 160 modern rooms offering refreshing spaces to retreat and relax.

Stylish guestrooms combine easy elegance with local elements and have balconies or terraces with either sea or garden views. Suites afford additional pleasures and space with separate living and sleeping areas.

All rooms are equipped with all the latest technology so you can stay connected on the go. Enjoy complimentary Wi-Fi, flatscreen TVs, as well as tea and coffee making facilities, a minibar and safe. When it’s time to relax, experience comfort like never before with plush beds, chic furniture and excellent room service.

The resort boasts some of the top restaurants in Sri Lanka. Overlooking the stunning pool views, The Palms offers Indian and Sri Lankan delicacies. The stylish Sea View restaurant offers a superb selection of courses. S.H.A.C.K. is one of the best seafood restaurants in Sri Lanka, tempting guests with the freshest catch of the morning. Relish authentic Chinese food at Oriental Pavilion. Enjoy great nightlife and exotic cocktails at one of the best lounges in Bentota, Tease, where the tropical décor adds to the lively ambience.

The resort has everything you need to relax, unwind and let your worries melt away during your stay. Get ready to feel the weight of the world leave your shoulders with an indulgent experience at the Jiva Spa. A select range of exquisite services, beauty and wellness treatments combine the best ingredients to offer you everything from glowing skin to a rejuvenated mind and body. Whatever you choose to indulge in, the experience will leave you deeply refreshed and renewed all over.

The fun never stops at Vivanta by Taj – Bentota. A selection of tours include visits to the Kosgoda Turtle Hatchery, Galle Fort trips and whale watching tours. Private romantic dining experiences can also be arranged.
THE FORTRESS RESORT & SPA

Set on the pristine white sands of one of Sri Lanka’s best-loved beaches in Koggala, The Fortress Resort & Spa is an iconic getaway and the true embodiment of luxury and relaxation.

Sanctuary of serenity
One of Sri Lanka’s finest boutique resorts, The Fortress is a sanctuary of serenity and private luxury with world-class facilities that has earned itself a place among international luxury standards. The Fortress was awarded Best Luxury Coastal Hotel at the celebrated World Luxury Hotel Awards 2011 and best Luxury Resort Spa in 2014 while also being one of just 10 hotels in Sri Lanka recognised by Small Luxury Hotels of the World.

The hotel houses 53 decadent rooms and suites, including the exclusive poolside Beach Splash Rooms where you can enjoy true luxury with a private plunge pool and daybeds. All rooms and suites have been designed to reflect the resort’s colourful charm and tranquility allowing guests to relax and unwind. All accommodations are smoke-free and feature spacious open-plan bathrooms, full-length mirrors, dual designer sinks and luxury hardwood flooring. They are equipped with mini cinema size LCD TVs with Bose® DVD players, mp3 players and satellite channels. In-room amenities include a mini bar, tea and coffee making facilities and IDD telephones. Fortress Residences, Ocean Lofts and Beach Rooms come with a jacuzzi.

The Fortress’ cuisine is legend; pizzas from its own wood-fire oven, signature seafood extravaganza, fresh and spiced to perfection. Complementing these is a range of mouthwatering desserts. From the best of Sri Lankan cuisine to a mix of continental, Mediterranean and Asian flavours, the Fortress’ spread offers a veritable smorgasbord created by a team of highly trained chefs.

Oasis of tranquility
Discover the true meaning of bliss at the spa and awaken your inner spirit with signature Ayurvedic therapies that are designed to rejuvenate and replenish your body and soul. Experience a Twilight Spa, an exotic ritual under the starry sky in the courtyard garden. Complimentary water therapies are offered where you can luxuriate in a hot steam bath or lounge in the soothing warmth of the sauna. The spa offers six dual spa suites, an Ayurvedic lounge and treatment sanctuary, manicure/pedicure and facial zone, aroma steam, sauna, jacuzzi and vitality showers as well as a yoga pavilion and fitness studio.
Amaya Resorts & Spa’s unique concept proudly retains its Sri Lankan culture and traditions while offering guests an amazing choice of accommodations.

Taking its name from the Sanskrit word for reality and non-illusion, Amaya Resorts & Spas is aptly named because of its dedication to ensuring its guests the opportunity to enjoy the best of the country’s indigenous cultural and ecological treasures. Amaya gives guests a choice of authentic experiences that reflect the culture, nature and beauty of Sri Lanka.

Amaya Signature - Dambulla
Amidst tropical woodland and landscaped gardens, beside Kandalama Lake, this stylish resort in Dambulla envelops you in a deep sense of tranquillity from the moment you arrive.

Plush luxury villas offer unsurpassed elegance. Wake to the sound of birdsong drifting in through the window. Then, enjoy breakfast on your private balcony, served by your dedicated butler.

Stroll along peaceful walkways through the trees, before taking a swim in the infinity pool, savour authentic Sri Lankan fine dining cuisine in the Green Apple Restaurant or choose from a variety of adventures that explore the island’s mountains, valleys, lush forests and glistening lakes. From a scenic hike through the verdant countryside to a fun bullock cart ride through the traditional village of Kapela. The resort also offers guests a convenient base from which to explore the surrounding’s many sacred places and discover its ancient temples, such as the famed Rangiri Dambulla temple.

Hunas Falls by Amaya - Kandy
The dramatic backdrop of the cascading Hunas Falls dominates this idyllic mountain retreat close to the hill capital of Sri Lanka, Kandy, and is the perfect base from which to explore the region’s spectacular sights that are characterised by steep tea plantations and vast expanses of spice cultivations. Enjoy a delectable breakfast on the terrace, before taking a refreshing hillside walk, or visit a traditional Sri Lankan village.

The spacious rooms and suites combine stylish furnishings with modern amenities to ensure absolute comfort and rest before embarking on another busy day exploring the surrounding area.

Experience the perfect ambience that only nature can provide as you enjoy fine dining under a tree canopy with an à la carte menu that has a choice of Western and exotic Sri Lankan cuisines available. The amiable, experienced staff will cater to your every need and ensure that your only focus is to enjoy your stay.
Indulgent luxury, Amaya Lake sets the benchmark for Dambulla Hotels.

Nestled along the shores of the Kandalama reservoir, Amaya Lake surrounds you with natural beauty. Be immersed in the culture and tradition of Sri Lanka with an array of luxury villas and suites that embody the unique personality of Dambulla. Gaze upon the still waters of the lake and listen to the melodies of indigenous birds, finding inner peace and rest.

Choose your oasis from a range of accommodations that blend naturally with their surrounds. Styled with laid-back sophistication, each guestroom offers a comfortable living space accentuated by soft lighting, charming wooden accents and artisanal Sri Lankan touches.

Designed with graceful elegance, the resort’s suites present the ultimate luxury for those with a yearning to be pampered. Each suite offers an outdoor plunge pool along with a jacuzzi, a sun-dappled pool deck and sunbeds.

Exceptional facilities await you at every turn where attentive staff is on hand to meet your every need. Revel in the restorative power of nature and treat your senses with a day at the ayurvedic spa and relax under the enchantment of rejuvenating treatments. Indulge in a shopping spree at the shopping boutique or simply plunge into the refreshing depths of the pool.

Savour a remarkable fusion of local and international cuisine, combined with panoramic views of Kandalama Lake. Cool, floral-scented breezes merge with delectable aromas to present you with a pleasant dining experience or choose from the extensive menu and enjoy your desired dish served personally in the comfort of your own room or suite.

Laid back seclusion in the midst of the historic Dambulla city, Amaya Lake has something unique in store for every guest.

Be it an adventure that your hearts yearns for in the wild, or a quiet stroll to bird watch, a romantic boat ride or just a yearning to be pampered all day, let your choice be just a call and request away.

The adventurous at heart will find a spectrum of opportunities at Amaya Lake from jungle trekking, hiking, barge boat rides, mountain biking and hot air ballooning.

Stroll along the pristine lakeside, embark on an elephant safari, unwind at the spa or wander beyond the resort and uncover legendary stories of Sri Lankan history.

No matter what you choose to do, find romantic highlights in this magical retreat.
AMAYA BEACH RESORT & SPA

A sun-drenched haven nestled on an unspoiled, white sandy shore with lush tropical gardens awaits to envelop your senses.

Set on the beautiful shores of Pasikudah Bay, on Sri Lanka’s eastern coast, Amaya Beach Resort & Spa with its ever attentive staff, and large guestrooms and suites epitomises the ideal hideaway for the discerning guest who seeks nothing but perfection.

The 125 rooms and suites are designed in a fresh décor with touches of vivid colours that echo the ambiance and warmth of this inspiring island.

The fully-furnished guestrooms meet every requirement to guarantee a comfortable stay. All rooms have a private balcony and offer delightful views of the garden.

Designed with elegance and sophistication, Deluxe Rooms and Suites offer luxurious living spaces, fine furnishings, an abundance of amenities and dazzling views of the bay, allowing guests to bask in the sheer opulence of their surroundings.

Dining options showcase the flavours of the region. The resort’s all-day dining restaurant, Reef Café, offers à la carte delights reflecting Sri Lankan seasonal products and staples inspired by Thai and Mediterranean flavours, as well as colourful buffets that will please every taste bud.

Aqua is an al fresco lounge bar overlooking the pool and serves refreshments, cocktails and light snacks. With Sri Lanka being synonymous for fine tea, this is the place to find the best cup of tea in Pasikudah.

Spice Market offers a myriad of delectable flavours with an emphasis on freshly prepared Asian and Sri Lankan specialities.

Explore a collection of experiences with exclusive access to the east coast’s most captivating locations. Whether you are travelling with family or looking for a quiet romantic getaway, Amaya Beach has an extensive range of activities for you.

Dive into Sri Lanka’s authentic diversity, from hot air balloon festivals to butterfly migration, elephant safaris, whale watching and traditional pereheras.

A wide range of facilities and activities include a large swimming pool, indoor playrooms, outdoor badminton and bicycle renting. Watersports include jet skiing windsurfing, canoeing, banana boat rides, deep sea fishing and sailing.

Amaya Beach’s award-winning spa, a venue of pampering excellence and well-being, offers subtle holistic experiences including the ever popular Ayurvedic treatments and other therapeutic treatments for you to unwind or restore your inner balance.
AMUNA AYURVEDA RETREAT

Embark on a wellness journey and immerse yourself in traditional and ancient treatments that will revitalise your mind, body and soul.

Amuna Ayurveda Retreat carries the concept of providing a holistic and authentic Sri Lankan wellness experience to ensure a relaxed, healthy holiday. Ayurvedic traditional medicine is a major part of Sri Lankan culture ranging back nearly 3,000 years, it was sustained by kings who were also skilled physicians.

Ayurveda is a holistic path that looks at all aspects of one’s life. Not only will your body receive healing, but your mind and soul will also be rejuvenated. It is through creating a balance with the healing of all components that Ayurveda offers a treatment path unlike any other.

Benefits which can be obtained from Ayurveda Therapies include curing nervous disorders, prevention of ageing process, improvement of eye sight, nourishment of the tissues, correct sleep disturbances, stress, joint and bone disorders, improvement of digestive tract functions, enhance beauty and complexion and cure various diseases.

Amuna Ayurveda Retreat is well equipped and all therapies are conducted by experienced therapists under the supervision of professional Ayurvedic Physicians. Many different types of traditional ayurvedic treatments and therapies along with yoga and meditation, and a strict in-house diet coupled with rest and relaxation are offered. All-inclusive packages are available and include accommodation, airport transfers, and all meals which are prepared according to your treatment.

Amidst a verdant oasis bordering the awe-inspiring Kandalama Lake in the horizon, the resort blends naturally with its surroundings and the facilities and amenities keep to this honoring of nature by using eco-friendly and recycled materials throughout.

Surrounded by nature, accommodation offers guests a blissful environment to meditate, relax and rejuvenate. Choose from eight dwellings, one villa and three tree houses, each elegantly designed with traditional touches.

Amuna is located at Kumbukkandanwala, Dambulla, in the heart of the cultural triangle in the Central Province. Sri Lanka’s cultural triangle is a treasure trove of ancient sites and monuments, making it the perfect location to call upon ancient treatments and traditions to fulfill your wellness journey. Spread over a lush site of around 20 acres, come experience the green cultivation all around you and the serene Lake Kandalama glittering in the distance.
THE KINGSBURY RESIDENCES
PLATINUM 1, COLOMBO 3 - SRI LANKA

Cosmopolitan living in Colombo 3

If you’re in town for a special occasion with family and friends or visiting Colombo on business, The Kingsbury luxury serviced residences will provide you with the convenience of being in the heart of the city as well as the comfort of cosmopolitan living with 24hr five star service.

For reservations please email:
ereservations@thekingsburyhotel.com or log on to thekingsburyhotel.com/the-kingsbury-residences
No.1, Bagatale Rd, Colombo 3, Sri Lanka. Tel: +94 11 757 0000
Welcome to a five-star beach hotel where style and substance meet effortlessly, where a turquoise infinity pool blends seamlessly into the Indian Ocean. A place where perfect days can be spent soaking up the sun on a pristine white sand beach, or cruising the Madu Ganga (river) amidst lush virgin mangroves. Welcome to Heritance Ahungalla.

World-class service

Blending interior and exterior spaces with the natural environment, this magnificent five-star hotel is located on 15 acres of prime beachfront on Sri Lanka’s southwest coast. It is the ideal place to enjoy a relaxing beach holiday while being pampered with world-class service.

There are 152 rooms and suites, all facing the sea with private balconies allowing you to absorb breathtaking ocean views and spectacular sunsets. The lavish décor features polished wood with stone floors in the bathrooms and locally woven, handmade accents. Glass panelled bathrooms let in natural light, with blinds for privacy. Here you can refresh yourself under giant rain showers or in the jacuzzi.

The rooms are fully equipped with energy efficient air-conditioning, TVs with satellite and local channels, free Wi-Fi, comprehensive minibar, digital safe, signature Heritance toiletries, complimentary Hethersett Mountain Spring Water, tea and coffee making facilities and more.

The culinary team at Heritance Ahungalla is one of the best in Sri Lanka, having won numerous prestigious awards. Enjoy a wide range of Sri Lankan food and delicious international fare, buffet-style, in the Jute Restaurant, that also hosts regular theme nights.

For fine dining try the global à la carte dinner menu in the Upper Room that also boasts its own wine cellar. For something lighter, the 24-hour Mustard Coffee Shop offers a range of snacks, as well as an à la carte menu and wine list or celebrate with a signature cocktail in one of the four bars.

For the ultimate in relaxation, Diviyan Spa offers a wide range of massage therapies and beauty treatments. For those who like to get active, you can hire a bike, sweat it out in the gym, or take a ride through the quiet neighbouring villages and cinnamon plantations. Among the other facilities on offer are two spectacular swimming pools, a library, business and conference facilities, on-site boutiques and a variety of sports and games.

All of this and so much more awaits you at Heritance Ahungalla.
HERITANCE KANDALAMA

Imagine a hotel that doesn’t simply sit on the landscape, but is part of it.

Where monkeys climb your balcony pillars as if they were trees and granite crags erupt into the sinuous white walkways. Where you can float in the infinity pool while gazing across at the Sigiriya Rock Fortress, the eighth wonder of the world. Welcome to Heritance Kandalama.

Eco friendly masterpiece
This architectural, eco friendly masterpiece is situated within the Cultural Triangle of Sri Lanka, in close proximity to two UNESCO World Heritage sites.

A pioneer in eco tourism in Sri Lanka, this award-winning, five-star hotel proves you don’t have to be small to be green. It boasts 152 rooms, all meticulously designed to safeguard the delicate ecosystem and environment in which the hotel sits.

Split between two wings, some rooms overlook the Kandalama Tank and forest. Those in the Dambulla wing also have views of the enormous Buddha on Dambulla Rock, while rooms in the Sigiriya wing look out over the famous rock fortress. Every room is set at a different angle from its neighbours ensuring the view from each is utterly unique.

Five-star cocoon
Entering your room is like entering your own private world—a five-star cocoon in the centre of the surrounding 230-acre Kandalama forest. The glass-fronted bathrooms make you feel part of the natural landscape outside. You can take a refreshing shower or relax in the jacuzzi in complete privacy.

All of the rooms are fully equipped with energy efficient air-conditioning, TVs with satellite and local channels, a comprehensive mini bar, digital safe, complimentary bottles of Hethersett Mountain Spring Water, free Wi-Fi, signature Heritance toiletries and tea and coffee making facilities.

Try a wide range of delectable Sri Lankan food and international delights, buffet style, at the Kanchana Restaurant, or for fine dining amidst spectacular views, Kaludiya Restaurant is a feast for the senses. Alternatively, Café Kachan offers a range of snacks, as well as local and international beers, wine and spirits.

Whether you want to relax by one of the three swimming pools including the Kaludiya natural rock pool, enjoy a relaxing massage or beauty treatment at the Six Senses Spa, work up a sweat in the gym, participate in a friendly game of pool, or get out and explore the breathtaking beauty nature bestowed on this corner of the globe, you are guaranteed the holiday of a lifetime at Heritance Kandalama.
Azure skies and aquamarine waters serenade you as you are encapsulated in the finest luxury at this lavish beach resort. Enjoy a fiery sunset while lounging on pristine beaches and be treated to an amazing facet of nature’s beauty.

Heritance Negombo blends the fresh vibrant shades of nature with aspects of Sri Lankan heritage to deliver a truly unique ‘Heritance’ experience. Negombo is a hub of cultural diversity and evokes memories of Portuguese, Dutch and English colonial times. The hotel is conveniently located in close proximity to the Colombo International Airport, an added advantage for business travellers or holidaymakers looking for a destination with a shorter commute.

Set on the picturesque beachfront, the hotel boasts 139 rooms and suites. Each room is crafted thoughtfully to give you the best in comfort as you enjoy views of the Negombo Sea and the bathrooms boast refreshing rain showers. Each room is equipped with air-conditioning, free Wi-Fi, a flat screen LED TV with satellite and local channels, a well-stocked minibar, digital safe and tea and coffee making facilities.

All-day interactive dining
Using the freshest produce available to tantalise your taste buds, a fusion of authentic local flavours is served at a variety of dining outlets. With open island stations and buffets, you can enjoy all-day, interactive dining experiences.

Indulge in freshly caught seafood that has been prepared to perfection or enjoy light snacks and freshly baked goods. Relax before or after a meal with breathtaking aerial views over Negombo Beach that are sure to delight. The talented mixologist will amaze you with a wide variety of exotic drinks as well as a selection of wines to accompany a sumptuous meal at one of the restaurants.

Re-energise at the spa that offers a range of treatments to revitalise your senses in one of six treatment rooms affording breathtaking views of the Indian Ocean. Work up a sweat in the fitness facility, or take a dip in the lagoon pool and soak up the rays of the setting sun.

Come and experience the captivating beauty of Sri Lankan nature, culture, world-class service and award-winning cuisine at its best.
Nestled in the famed mountain range that gave the world pure Ceylon tea, Heritance Tea Factory was built in the days of the British Raj.

Where else in the world can you stay in a converted tea factory, pluck your own tea and take it home as a souvenir? At two kilometres above sea level, you’ll witness views of the sun mingling with the mist over the lush green organic plantations that will truly take your breath away. Enjoy them as you tuck into high tea on the terrace, or the delicious tea-themed menu in the restaurant.

Converted into a magnificent award-winning hotel, The Heritance Tea Factory still preserves much of its original style and machinery. Today the hotel overlooks tea covered hills and valleys and boasts 50 cosy, comfortable rooms and suites in a range of categories.

Converted from the former withering lofts, all accommodations feature bathtubs and showers as well as heating for when the mist closes in. Full-length windows that once helped to control the temperature for drying the leaves now ensure the rooms are flooded with natural light while providing spectacular views of the surrounding tea plantations.

Wood is a key element in the rooms and furnishings are all made locally, from the prints showing local villagers bartering goods to custom-made toiletries and the complimentary bottles of Hethersett Water from the hotel’s spring. Each room is also equipped with the hotel’s signature tea leaves, coffee, free Wi-Fi and a fully stocked mini bar.

For dining with a difference, TCK 6685 Restaurant gives you the chance to dine in a converted 1930s railway carriage, served by white-gloved attendants amid polished teak and brass. Alternatively, the Kenmare Restaurant serves a wide range of Sri Lankan and international dishes buffet style, or for something lighter, Hethersett Bar serves a variety of snacks, as well as local and international beers, wine and spirits. And of course, at Heritance Tea Factory, it’s always time for tea. The Goatfell Bar is just the place to put your feet up with a refreshing cuppa or treat yourself to a wonderful high tea.

Whether you want to work up a sweat on a bike or in the gym, wind down with a relaxing massage in the spa, or settle down with your laptop in the library, there is a comprehensive range of facilities to keep you occupied. For a wholly unique and truly unforgettable holiday experience, you can’t go past Heritance Tea Factory.
Situated midway between India and China in a fertile monsoon belt, Thailand shares its borders with Myanmar (Burma), Laos, Cambodia and Malaysia. Its east coast is on the Gulf of Thailand and the west coast on the Andaman Sea.

The country is divided into four main regions: the Central Plains of the Chao Phraya River; the region of the northeast plateau; the fertile valley and mountains of Northern Thailand; and the rainforested southern peninsula. Each region has its own topographical identity and subtle differences between both the people and dialects.

Capital and major centres

It is worth enduring the inevitable traffic jams, pollution and humid weather to experience Bangkok, easily one of Asia’s most exciting cities. Known in Thai as Krung Thep, the ‘City of Angels’, Bangkok is the spiritual, symbolic and geographical heart of Thailand, and home to nine million people.

Chiang Mai is Thailand’s second largest city and an ideal base from which to explore the mountains and villages. The region is famed for its many fine temples and handicrafts. Ban Chiang, found in the northeastern province of Udon Thani, is most fascinating for its archaeological site which was discovered by accident in 1966. Artefacts on display are thought to date back to around 3600BC. Khorat, or Nakhon Ratchasima, was part of the ancient Khmer empire, and is today a rapidly expanding business centre.

Along the east coast, on the Gulf of Thailand, lies Pattaya, which offers many beaches and is popular with families. On the sunrise coast of the Gulf of Thailand are Cha-am and Hua Hin. The former has experienced a dramatic surge in popularity since the mid-80s and catering mainly for Thais, its quiet village atmosphere has become a lot livelier. Nearby Hua Hin was Thailand’s first beach resort and in the 1920s was a popular retreat for minor Thai royalty. Nowadays the King and Queen reside here when they’re not in Bangkok.

Further south along the east coast, beautiful Koh Samui is covered with coconut plantations and circled by palm-fringed beaches. The twin Phi Phi islands in Krabi are famed for their unusual and spectacular landscapes, while the country’s largest island, Phuket, lies in the Andaman Sea off the country’s southwestern coast. All of these places are popular tourist destinations.

The people

The majority of Thailand’s 68 million people are concentrated in the fertile Central Plains and in the capital, Bangkok. An easygoing people, Thais are known for their tolerance of other cultures and friendliness to visitors. Thai people will be offended only if there is any perceived disrespect to the king or Buddhism. Constitutional since 1932, the monarchy is revered almost as much as when kings were chakravartin, or ‘lords of life’. Buddhism is the dominant religion and orange-robed monks and gold, marble and stone Buddhas are common.
Nature
One-quarter of Thailand is covered by monsoon forest or rainforest, and the country has an incredible variety of fruit trees, bamboo and tropical hardwoods. National parks and wildlife sanctuaries cover 11 percent of the country and contain more than 850 resident and migratory species of birds and dwindling numbers of tigers, leopards, elephants and Asiatic black bears.

The sights
The Chao Phraya River, ‘river of kings’, is Thailand’s most important waterway, draining some of the country’s fertile rice growing land, and providing another means of travel in Bangkok. A few kilometres inland from Bang Saen, a beach resort popular with Bangkok residents, is the Khao Kheow Open Zoo, which has more than 50 wildlife species roaming its spacious, semi-free enclosures. Stretching north from Bangkok are the picturesque Central Plains with their checkered patterns of green rice paddies. In the heart of this region is Ayutthaya, the nation’s second capital. Buddhamanthon, a Buddhist park, lies on the western edge of Bangkok. Featuring a 16.25-metre statue of Buddha, the park commemorates the 2500th anniversary of the religion. Further west is the world’s tallest Buddhist monument at Nakhon Pathom. Not far from there is the infamous Bridge over the River Kwai as is the newly popular “Tiger Temple” or Wat Pha Luang Ta Bua. South from Chiang Mai are the numerous ruined temples of Thailand’s first capital, Sukothai, founded in the early 13th century. Further north from Chiang Mai is teak country where elephants used to work in the forests. Elephants can still be seen displaying their forestry skills at several training camps.

Chiang Rai is a good centre for exploring the far north where visitors will find stunning jungle covered mountains, hilltribe villages, and Doi Tung, a mountain where Her Royal Highness the Princess Mother has a hilltop palace.

Where to stay
While Bangkok offers some of the most superb hotels in the world, Thailand and its capital have a wealth of accommodation options, from luxury and reasonable resort accommodation to simple comforts on islands or beaches. There are also bungalows, guesthouses and more basic native-style hotels in regions such as Chiang Mai.

Getting around
Bangkok is possibly the world’s most congested city, and its traffic jams and pollution are notorious. It is, however, very easy to find transport of all kinds, including riverboats, public buses, limousines and tour buses run by hotels, as well as taxis, colourful ruk-tuks and samlors (bicycle rickshaws) that are found throughout the country. Songthaews, vans with two rows of seats in the back, are more common than city buses outside Bangkok and run popular routes for set fares. The Bangkok Metro (BMCL-Subway) operates every day from 6am until midnight every five minutes during peak hour and seven minutes in off-peak times. It is clean and extremely efficient. The BTS Skytrain covers much of the central city and its many commercial, residential and tourist areas. It gives the added bonus of seeing the city from a bird’s eye perspective.
Food and entertainment
Renowned for its quality and diversity, Thai cuisine is as much a feast for the eyes as the stomach. And while eating for most Thai people is an informal, social activity, even the simplest of dishes are served with a carved carrot flower or spring onion tassel, and sometimes fruit and vegetable sculptures. Meals are rich and spicy, and seafood, including crab, fish, lobster and shrimp, feature heavily. Bangkok has restaurants of all nationalities and styles, from street stalls to elegant restaurants at deluxe hotels. The Dome at State Tower, for example, has a number of trendy bars and restaurants. Outside Bangkok, there are restaurants specialising in various national cuisines as well as the typical spicy northern delicacies.

In Chiang Mai, the best way to sample the local fare is to order a Khantoke dinner which features a variety of dishes served with sticky rice. Rayong and Chanthaburi on the east coast are known for their succulent seafood as well as tropical fruits including durian, rambutans, custard apples and mangosteens.

Those looking for nighttime entertainment will find all sorts of action in Bangkok. Neon-lit bar districts, pubs, discos, live music, theatre, classical dance, cultural shows, night markets and many other distractions abound. Check out the night markets behind Ratchaprarop Road in Pratunam. A night market in Hua Hin displays locally produced silk and cotton items and the region’s famed ‘kanom’ Thai sweets.

Activities
Thai boxing, or Muay Thai, Thailand’s national sport, is fast gaining popularity worldwide. The sport is highly ritualistic, but fights are fierce and furious. The ultra fit combatants use their elbows, knees and bare feet as well as gloved fists. Professional bouts are held almost every night at either of the two boxing stadiums in Bangkok. Golf, tennis, squash, darts and table tennis are also popular, and every imaginable watersport is available at the seaside resorts.

Shopping
The good quality, wide variety and reasonable prices of many Thai goods have long been a major attraction for tourists. Arts and crafts range from wicker rice steamers and triangular, patterned cushions to antiques. Internationally renowned Thai silks are available in a fascinating array of colours and designs. Tailors, particularly in Bangkok, can make clothes in any fabric to high standards at low prices. There are huge, modern shopping malls and other retail shops, but it is at the colourful markets at the heart of every Thai town that visitors can have fun bargaining with vendors.

Climate
The climate varies from north to south. There are three seasons, with March to May reaching 40°C. June to October is the wet season and November to February is the cool season at 27°C. Casual clothing is worn by most visitors to Thailand. Respectable attire is recommended for top hotels and restaurants. Skimpy clothing is forbidden in religious places.

Currency
The currency is the Thai Baht. A service charge is included in most bills. Only tip for special service. Porters expect a tip per piece of luggage. Remember that a tip consisting of coins is considered offensive.
From bustling cities, serene temples and beautiful relaxing beaches, Central Thailand has something for every traveller.

On the fertile plains stretching north from Bangkok are 21 provinces, sometimes called ‘the rice bowl of Asia’, that are responsible for producing much of the country’s rice.

Ayutthaya was one of the greatest mercantile centres in Asia and its incredible temples and palaces are built around the confluence of the Chao Praya, Lopburi and Pasak rivers. Hundreds of visitors on day trips from Bangkok are drawn to the remains of monuments that stand among more modern buildings.

At Kanchanaburi is the infamous River Kwai bridge and ‘Death Railway’, the Japan-Burma railway built by the Japanese during World War II, when thousands of Asian labourers and Allied POWs died. Nearby are two war cemeteries, Kanchanaburi War Cemetery and Chong Kai Cemetery and the JEATH (Japan, England, Australia, Thailand and Holland) War Museum is housed in a reconstructed POW detention hut.

Bangkok
Bangkok is a thriving, bustling capital city catering to all kinds of tourists. Taxis or minibuses take visitors directly to their hotel via the convenient new expressway. Bangkok proper seethes on the east side of the Chao Phraya River and can be divided in two by the main north-south train line. Old Bangkok glitters in the portion between the river and the railway and it is here that most of the older temples and the original palace are located while new Bangkok is east of the railway.

For a bustling city, Bangkok surprisingly offers quiet escapes. Step out of the street noise and into the calm of one of the city’s 400 temples and monasteries. The Grand Palace and Wat Phra Kaeo complex is the city’s premier tourist attraction and home to Phra Kaeo, the small, sacred and renowned emerald Buddha, the most revered image of Buddha in Thailand. The Grand Palace is a must-see for visitors, with temples and pavilions shimmering in gold leaf, porcelain and glass while not far away is the Marble Temple, considered one of the country’s most beautiful buildings.

The Dusit Zoo is near the Royal Plaza, where the Thai royal family live in the Chitralada Palace. Wat Arun, or the Temple of Dawn is one of the city’s major landmarks with its central monument symbolising Hindu-Buddhist cosmology.

The Temple of the Golden Buddha houses a unique, gleaming, 18-carat gold, four-metre high, 13th century Sukhothai Buddha.

Other sights include the Wat Sai floating market in Thonburi, a boat trip through the city’s extensive network of canals, and the renowned Oriental Hotel. For a shopping indulgence, head to central Bangkok’s Siam Square. This bustling shopping mecca is littered with alleyways jam packed with cheap, independent designer boutiques as well as numerous major shopping malls.

Hua Hin
Hua Hin is a favourite coastal destination for Thais who flock there to enjoy its beaches, multicultural buzz and numerous cafés and bistros that offer a wide range of cuisine. It is situated in the southwest of Bangkok and is recognised as Thailand’s first beach resort and extends some kilometres to a headland where Buddhist temples cling to the cliffs. Powdery white sand, resort hotels lining the coastline and visitors enjoying numerous watersports give the beach town its distinctive ambience.

Stunning Khao Sam Roi Yod National Park, 45 kilometres south of Hua Hin is one of the best-managed protected areas in the country. Kaeng Krachan National Park, northwest of Hua Hin, is Thailand’s largest protected area and is home to elephants, tigers, leopards, gibbon and many species of birds.
Welcome to Rembrandt Hotel Bangkok, a luxury hotel that caters to the most discerning needs of business and leisure travellers in the heart of Bangkok.

The hotel is ideally located in a quiet ‘soi’ in the retail heart of Bangkok’s Sukhumvit area, close to the Skytrain with easy access to the airport and near the central business district as well as world-class shopping, tourist attractions, landmarks and vibrant nightlife so you can enjoy the best the city has to offer.

The Rembrandt Hotel boasts 407 luxurious rooms, each elegantly appointed with chic décor, soft furnishings and marble bathrooms to provide guests an outstanding accommodation experience whether travelling for business or pleasure.

Room categories range from Superior, Deluxe, Executive and Family Rooms.

A selection of suites have been designed to meet the requirements of the most discerning guests, in Executive, Grand Executive, Terrace, Rembrandt, and The Presidential Suite categories. In room amenities include soft, fluffy bathrobes and towels, bathroom amenities, a safe deposit box, individual air-conditioning, a desk, minibar, iron and ironing board, hairdryer, LCD TV, slippers and complimentary high speed wireless internet access is available for all guests throughout the hotel.

The Rembrandt Hotel Bangkok offers a variety of customised high quality services and facilities. Sit back and unwind by the large swimming pool. Enjoy relaxing beauty and wellness treatments at the Sanctuary Wellness and Spa, an oasis of tranquillity in the heart of Bangkok, or keep active at the fully equipped fitness centre.

An exquisite variety of dining options will delight the most demanding palates. Enjoy award-winning Thai cuisine at Red Pepper. For outstanding Mexican cuisine, Mexicano focuses on authenticity, fun and friendliness and offers an extensive selection of tequila. DaVinci Italian Restaurant offers you specialties from all over Italy while Flavours Restaurant offers a wide variety of international specialities and a daily breakfast buffet. The Lobby Bar offers the optimum ambience for a welcoming drink or savour snacks and cocktails poolside at the pool bar.

Rembrandt Hotel is recognised as being at the forefront of business and corporate meetings throughout Bangkok. The two meeting rooms are perfect for small events or business meeting for up to 12, and the spacious Grand Ballroom can accommodate up to 800 in various layouts for celebrations and events, business conventions, weddings and exhibitions.
Chatrium Hotels & Residences provides uncompromising, warm service and a captivating experience in stunning surroundings, from cosmopolitan city living in Bangkok to the relaxing beauty of Royal Lake in Yangon, for long or short term stays.

Chatrium Hotel Riverside Bangkok
This multiple award-winning, five-star hotel situated by the legendary Chao Phraya River offers truly breathtaking views. A selection of 396 spacious rooms, each with a choice of river or city views, offers a private balcony, a convenient kitchenette and state-of-the-art technology in entertainment and connectivity. The Chatrium Club Lounge provides exclusive services, adding an extra touch of luxury. The six restaurants and bars are amongst the best in Bangkok.

Emporium Suites by Chatrium
A five-star luxury hotel and residence in one of Bangkok’s most prestigious addresses and winner of TripAdvisor’s Travelers’ Choice Award, Emporium Suites is situated above Emporium Shopping Complex and next to Emquartier and Benjasiri Park. There are 378 elegantly appointed rooms featuring floor-to-ceiling windows offering beautiful cityscape panoramas, kitchenettes or separate kitchens, the highest quality furnishings and unparalleled service. Dining combines delicious international cuisine with stunning city views, whilst cocktails can be sipped poolside at the Pool Bar. Stay fit at the modern fitness centre, with both male and female steam and sauna rooms, before getting down to business in one of five meeting rooms.

Chatrium Residence Sathon Bangkok
Discover a sanctuary away from the hustle and bustle of Bangkok whilst still only minutes away from trendy shopping areas. Chatrium Residence Sathon Bangkok offers 560 rooms and suites, each with a kitchenette or separate kitchen, spacious bathrooms, homely furnishings and daily housekeeping services. You’ll find everything you need from three superb restaurants and bars, a minimart, self-service launderette, kids’ play area, a resort-style lagoon swimming pool, spa and driving range.

Maitria Hotel Sukhumvit 18 - A Chatrium Collection
A modern lifestyle hotel in the downtown district of Bangkok, Maitria Hotel Sukhumvit 18 - A Chatrium Collection provides a unique lifestyle experience that’s tailored to the savvy traveller. Each of the 131 guestrooms has been crafted to provide you with modern living spaces and is fitted with sleek designer furnishings and state-of-the-art technology in both entertainment and connectivity. Metta Eatery & Bar, the exciting long table eatery concept restaurant, is the perfect place to gather to enjoy authentic tastes with modern twists.
from traditional Thai dishes to Western flavours.

**Chatrium Residence Riverside Bangkok**
This five-star serviced home-away-from-home is situated beside the Chao Phraya River, where stunning views complement new heights in comfort and convenience. Spacious residences offer all the comforts of home and private balconies provide beautiful views of the Chao Phraya River and Bangkok cityscape, whilst a choice of one, two and three bedroom residences offer ample living space.

**Chatrium Golf Resort Soi Dao Chanthaburi**
Discover a breathtaking highland sanctuary at Chatrium Golf Resort Soi Dao Chanthaburi. Set amidst 1600 acres of lush greenery with stunning vistas of the imposing Soi Dao Mountain, the Denis Griffith’s- designed 18-hole international class course was recently upgraded by Golf East and is complemented by 47 opulent guestrooms with balconies overlooking the tranquil green, a Club House featuring Soi Dao restaurant, a fully-stocked Pro Shop and expansive outdoor pool.

**Chatrium Hotel Royal Lake Yangon**
One of the city’s topmost hotels for pure luxury, Chatrium Hotel Royal Lake Yangon is popular with many of the world’s celebrities and VIPs. With simply stunning views of Kandawagyi Lake and the Shwedagon Pagoda, each of the 300 guestrooms offer a unique sense of escape. You’ll find state-of-the-art technology for in-room connectivity and entertainment blended seamlessly with charming décor and furnishings.

Choose from six restaurants and bars, relax by the beach-style swimming pool, work-out at the fitness centre and rejuvenate at Nemita Spa.

The Grand Ballroom is ideal for weddings, banquets and large events, with smaller meeting rooms available for more private functions.

For more information or reservations, please call Chatrium Hotel Riverside Bangkok on +66 2307 8888, Chatrium Hotel Royal Lake Yangon on +95 1544 500, Emporium Suites by Chatrium on +66 2664 9999, Chatrium Residence Sathon Bangkok on +66 2672 0200, Chatrium Residence Riverside Bangkok on +66 2307 8888, Chatrium Golf Resort Soi Dao Chanthaburi on +66 89 9343008 and Maitria Hotel Sukhumvit 18 - A Chatrium Collection on +66 2302 5777.
Along the Chao Phraya River in the heart of Bangkok, the two sisters, Riva Surya and Riva Arun are surrounded by some of the city’s most treasured historical sites.

Riva Surya
Adding a touch of style and charm to Bangkok’s preserved Rattanakosin Island, The Riva Surya hotel is within walking distance of the lively entertainment district of Khao San Road. This modern boutique hotel features 68 beautifully designed rooms, elegant dining options, a riverside swimming pool and leisure facilities that cater for both business and leisure travellers.

Babble & rum is Riva Surya’s market inspired restaurant which offers breathtaking views of the river. It brings a contemporary and stylish dining experience to Bangkok’s riverside. Babble & rum’s outdoor terrace, The Garden, is a warm and inviting dining area with sweeping views of the river.

Riva Arun
The new sister hotel, Riva Arun, is a modern, luxurious 25-room boutique hotel designed by renowned, New York architect and designer Stephen O’Dell. It opened its doors for discerning guests in August 2016. A city centre connection via the Chao Phraya River by Chao Phraya Express Boat and Skytrain’s Saphan Taksin BTS station (from Tha Tien pier) puts downtown Bangkok within quick and easy reach. Popular attractions such as the nearby Wat Pho, Museum of Siam, Wat Arun, Grand Palace, Flower Market, Tha Tien, Fresh Market, and Tha Maharaj riverside community mall are just a few of the must-see items.

All guestrooms are carefully designed with stylish furnishings and balconies, some overlooking the Chao Phraya River. The significant Premium Jacuzzi Suite is an elegantly designed 73-square metre area which provides a personal view of the Chao Phraya River with the stunning Wat Arun in the background, from a private balcony with outdoor jacuzzi.

Above Riva, the iconic rooftop restaurant and bar offers views across three stunning scenes of Thai heritage, Wat Arun, the Chao Praya River and Wat Pho. The restaurant serves a superb twist of Thai cuisine for its dinner menu, a perfect infusion of local flavours, market-fresh ingredients and a variety of creative influences handpicked from around the globe. A la carte or continental breakfasts are also served at Above Riva.
In the heart of Hua Hin, approximately 200 kilometres south west of Bangkok, Putahracsa is a trendy boutique spa resort set amidst beautiful lush green foliage.

With the ultimate comfort in mind, the resort has been designed for guests to relax and escape on the quiet shores of this charming beach town without compromising modern luxuries and comforts. There are a total of 67 designed units in two zones. Resort side is set amidst the lush gardens, where Silksand rooms are situated around the main pool, Silksand Deluxe and Sancyk rooms are also situated around their own exclusive pool.

The Putahracsa daySpa practices a balance of traditional theories and modern techniques to create treatments that unify the mind, body and soul. These impressions are fused into the heart of the Putahracsa Resort, allowing guests to have the ultimate daySpa experience throughout the facility. Using ancient sources of nature and natural products, Putahracsa daySpa ensures each treatment is a sensory experience.

For an indulgent experience on the beachfront, luxurious private villas with pool or sea views are available in Oceanbed Jacuzzi Villas, Oceanbed Pool Villas, La Canna Pool Villas and La Canna Beachfront Pool Villa categories with a discreet butler at your service tending to your individual needs.

Putahracsa has various dining options to offer its guests. Ob-Oon Deli Boulangerie & Pâtisserie features the finest selection of fresh baked goods in all of Hua Hin and includes an all-day breakfast, lunch and early dinner. All menus feature French inspired bistro fare, a few modern Thai dishes, simple yet creative pasta dishes and salads as well as cheese and charcuterie boards which round up the menu. Drinkwise you can choose between classic hot beverages, drip coffee, TWG tea selection and wonderful frappés and shakes.

Oceanside Beach Club & Restaurant with its Oceanside Beach Bar offers uninterrupted views of the sea and the sounds of waves crashing right at the foot of the restaurant, providing the ingredients for an idyllic dining experience.

Come sunset, the beach club illuminated by numerous glass box candles kicks into action. With deep seated, oversized sofas and loose cushions, the club provides the perfect spot to chill out, lie back and relax, sipping on a selection of exotic cocktails.
Northern Thailand offers a great diversity of interests, from ancient monuments and museums, the markets of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai, to the incredible mountains, forests (some of them teak), rice fields and spectacular national parks. Located 700 kilometres north of Bangkok, Chiang Mai, the ‘Rose of the North’, has numerous ancient Buddhist temples and other monuments within its city gates.

Close by are Wat Prathat Doi Suthep, one of the most revered Buddhist shrines in Northern Thailand. Major attractions on the thickly forested mountain of Doi Suthep include waterfalls, a Hmong village and the English-style gardens of Phuping Palace, the summer residence of the Royal Family.

Chiang Mai is Thailand’s second most important city, the literal meaning of its name is ‘new city’ though it was founded back in the late 13th century. It is one of the world’s largest centres of cottage industries and it is interesting to visit the numerous craftspeople making anything from jewellery to umbrellas and silks, using skills passed down through the generations. While the city is an ideal base for mountain treks, it is also well known for its excellent shopping, fine restaurants and accommodation. Compared to Bangkok, Chiang Mai’s evenings are cool and conducive to strolling around the central night bazaar.

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Pai has a fast-growing reputation as one of Northern Thailand’s top beauty spots, and is popular with trekkers and lovers of mountain scenery. The town and surrounding area include amongst their population Lisu hill tribes, Muslims from Myanmar (Burma) and Yunnanese from China.

One of the most unusual sights in Mae Hong Son is the Padaung, or Karen, a hilltribe community farming rice, tea and tobacco. The women are distinguished by their long necks, lengthened from childhood by brass rings. The countryside east of Pai is famous for a seasonal phenomenon known as Thale Mok, or Sea of Mists, when from November to December mountain valleys fill with clouds and provide a spectacular sight in the early morning.

The far northern region of Chiang Rai is developing as a popular tourist destination for its spectacular geography. The area remains synonymous with the Golden Triangle, where Thailand, Laos and Myanmar meet, historically connected to the opium and heroin trades. There’s much more to the area than this, however, with superb views, hilltribe villages and the historical towns of Chiang Saen and Chiang Khong.

Mae Sai is Thailand’s northernmost town, separated from Myanmar only by a bridge. South of Mae Sai is Tham Luang, a large cave complex with crystals that change colour in the light. Further south are more caves, Tham Pum and Tham Pla, which have lakes inside.
The Gulf of Thailand offers a host of resorts where Thais and foreigners can unwind, relax on the superb beaches and enjoy the succulent bounties of the sea.

It is also home to magnificent mountains, waterfalls and lush tropical vegetation.

Pattaya, in the province of Chonburi, lies 150 kilometres east of Bangkok and is one of Thailand’s best known beach resorts.

It is a developed, vibrant city that draws families (mostly to Jomtien, two kilometres south of Pattaya) and singles (mostly to South Pattaya Road).

It attracts visitors who love watersports and golf, as well as those looking for entertainment, dancing and action in its neon-lit go-go bars, nightclubs, cabarets and discos.

For visitors looking for other activities, the Khao Kheow Zoo has more than 50 species of birds and animals, including deer, zebras and tigers, many of them indigenous to Southeast Asia. Each October, buffalo racing is held in conjunction with a fair, and there’s also a buffalo beauty contest.

Since the 15th century, Chanthaburi has been known to Western travellers for its abundance of gemstones, and is as renowned for gems worldwide as Bangkok. More than 70 percent of the world’s rubies come from Thailand, and Thai workers have a reputation for their skill and dexterity in faceting stones. Of all the Thai gemstones, deep blue sapphires and blood red rubies are the most highly prized, as are unusually coloured (such as yellow) sapphires.

Covering an area of just 59 kilometres, Khao Kitchakut National Park is one of the country’s smallest and boasts a 1000-metre granite mountain after which the park is named. Many people make the four-hour climb to the summit of the impressive Phrabat mountains to see an image of the Buddha’s footprint and collections of natural rock formations shaped like an elephant, a large turtle, a pagoda and a monk’s bowl.

Nearby, the far larger but less visited Khao Soi Dao Wildlife Sanctuary provides a home to many endangered species, including sun bears, spotted bellied eagle owls, silver pheasants and elephants.

Mountainous Ko Chang is the largest of the 50 or so islands that form the Ko Chang National Marine Park, two-thirds of which is sea. Inland exploration is difficult due to the rugged terrain, but it has excellent beaches, including the popular Sai Khao Beach, prettier and quieter Khlong Phrao Beach and the particularly beautiful beach of Ao Bang Bao in the southwest corner. The tourism industry in Ko Chang is in its infancy, a contributing factor is probably the fact that several of the islands consist solely of exclusive, privately owned resorts.
SOUTH THAILAND

The region abounds in sandy beaches fringed with palm trees. The narrow peninsula of southern Thailand stretches from the border of Myanmar to Malaysia. The region has a rich multi-cultural heritage, and abounds in sandy beaches fringed with palm trees.

Phuket is Thailand’s largest island and one of the most popular holiday destinations in Southeast Asia with many traditional fishing villages transformed into holiday resorts. Longtail boats take visitors to sights such as the extraordinary limestone stacks of Phang-Nga Bay. Phuket Town is a perfect place to shop for truly unique gifts, as well as giving tourists the opportunity to see Thai and Chinese temples.

Covered in lush green hills and rice paddies, Phuket’s major attractions include Karon, Kamala and Kalim beaches, as well as Patong Beach and Promthep Cape.

The clearest waters, best sand and most luxurious hotels are found on the west coast. Patong is the most densely developed resort while Karon and Kata are quieter.

Patong Beach owes its popularity to its easy access and long stretch of beach. Most of Phuket’s evening entertainment is found here, as well as cheap shopping opportunities. Patong Beach is where Phuket’s action is, and it is by far the most frequented destination on the island. It has several white sandy beaches and is packed with restaurants, hotels, bars and shops and is a great place to start your exploration of the surrounding areas.

Nature lovers won’t want to miss Mai Khao Beach, where sea turtles lay their eggs between December and February. A visit to a pearl farm is also a popular day trip for tourists. Krabi, 180 kilometres from Phuket, is a small fishing town with an important role as the ferry connection point for islands such as Ko Lanta, Ko Phi Phi and the beaches around Ao Nang. Towering limestone outcrops have become the signature of the twin Phi Phi islands, and the challenging conditions attract rock climbers from around the world.

Chaweng Beach has a reputation as a hangout for the international party crowd while those looking for peace and quiet should try Mae Nam, Bo Phut and Big Buddha on the northern coast. Trang is a coastal province on the Indian Ocean that was the first area in Thailand to grow rubber, which is now a major part of the economy.

Hat Chao Mai Beach is of particular interest to tourists, and on offer are amazing experiences such as paddling on Phang-Nga Bay, allowing adventurers to explore a network of interesting caves and scenic deserted beaches.

Phang-Nga, located next to the Andaman Sea, has amazing natural beauty and offers breathtaking scenery and landscapes, with mountainous areas alongside forest and some wonderful islands and beaches. It has a charm of its own, without the hustle and bustle of Phuket, and is nestled amongst soaring mountains that rise up around the town.
A holiday in Phuket gives travellers the chance to escape to pristine beaches, crystalline waters, sumptuous cuisine and a pulsating nightlife.

Phuket has it all. Dubbed ‘Pearl of the South’ by the tourist industry, Phuket is Thailand’s largest, most populous and most visited island. A whirl of colour and cosmopolitanism, Thailand’s only island province revolves around and thrives on tourism but still retains a spark of the real Thailand.

Phuket has a long history. In centuries past, it was an important trading post. Two centuries ago, extensive tin mining drew thousands of Chinese labourers to the island and their influence has remained, leaving the province of Phuket with the highest percentage of ethnic Chinese in the country. The southern and coastal areas of the island were predominantly inhabited by Muslim fisherman.

Whether it’s world-class diving in the Andaman Sea, golf at the world standard championship courses or exciting eco-adventures in tropical forests, it is the place to extend your horizons. Take an exhilarating speedboat ride to the surrounding islands or enjoy a serene cruise around mystical Phang Nga Bay.

Or why not enjoy the vibrant nightlife at legendary Patong Beach with its bewildering mix of restaurants, bars, discs, live music clubs and cabarets. Inexpensive deals abound for this stunning destination and there is a wide variety of holiday packages available that need not break the budget.

Phuket is more than a provincial capital; it is also a fascinating location for enthusiastic shoppers with all kind of budgets. You will find items ranging from antique Asian art and crafts, clothing boutiques, household knick-knacks to bolts of famous Thai silk with bargaining the order of the day. With its idyllic tropical weather, Phuket is a favourite with beach lovers. There are, broadly speaking, two seasons: the dry and the wet. The dry season begins in December and lasts until April, when the rainfall increases. Wet or dry, temperatures remain remarkably consistent, nestling around 30°C and always with a dash of humidity.

Just a 45-minute speedboat jaunt and a 90-minute ferryboat ride from Phuket are the towering limestone outcrop of the twin Phi Phi Islands.

The larger and inhabited island, Phi Phi Don attracts hundreds of visitors to stay on its lovely shores. It is paradise perfected with beautiful beaches, stunning rock formations and vivid turquoise waters teeming with colourful marine life. Without roads, there is no hustle and bustle, no reason to hurry. Longtail boats make the many secluded beaches around Phi Phi Don accessible.

The sheer limestone walls of the smaller Phi Phi Leh are dotted with caves and passages and the island’s shallow blue-green lagoons and coral gardens are a snorkeller’s paradise.

So whether you want to snorkel the day away, relax in the sun, dance ‘til dawn at a club, or indulge in Thai specialty cuisines, it’s not difficult to see why Phuket is considered the ultimate holiday destination in Thailand.
Bringing a new and exciting Phuket experience to travellers in 2016 is The Slate, formerly the Indigo Pearl Resort.

The revitalised resort is an avant-garde expression of Phuket’s heritage with its culture and traditions manifested in bold designs and fearless imagination. Set against a backdrop of lush rainforest with an abundance of wildlife, it is a place of rich contrasts and unexpected elements offering a truly multi-faceted and intriguing experience that captures the island’s true spirit.

The resort has accommodation to suit everyone. The Bensley Suite has its own pool with suspended sundeck, garden sala for in-suite spa treatments and an outdoor tub offering glimpses of the Andaman at sunset. The seven Private Pool Villas are the epitome of luxury and feature his and hers fixtures, grand living and dining areas including an outdoor barbecue. Pearl Bed Suites have open spaces, are softly lit and offer views from the private balconies that lead from the living area and bathroom. Pool Suites offer 112 square metres of combined indoor and outdoor space. A refreshing plunge pool is set in a private garden courtyard and there is also a stylish bathtub and oversized daybed.

When it’s time to be pampered head to one of the spa’s eight luxurious treatment rooms. Offering a comprehensive menu and nestled within the backdrop of luscious rainforest and tropical gardens, The Coqoon’s unique cutting edge design features The Nest, a unique space amongst the banyan trees. The three swimming pools, an on-site dive centre, fitness centre and kids’ club with indoor and outdoor activities are just some of the facilities that will keep you as active as you choose during your stay.

There are many dining choices available. From Black Ginger, the resort’s fine dining signature restaurant that showcases authentic Siam flavours, to beachfront dining and snacks by the pool, you can enjoy a wide variety of cuisines. For absolute privacy, in-room dining is also available.

Romance is not forgotten at the resort. Say your vows under a gazebo of roses and orchids with the romantic backdrop of the ocean or have a traditional white wedding at Coliseum Garden, a breathtaking Thai-style sala over a magical lagoon.

To enjoy a resort visualised and conceptualised by a visionary Phuket family and a well-known architect and designer, The Slate must be your destination of choice.
SALA Phuket Resort and Spa

SALA Phuket Resort and Spa is a stunning destination resort featuring private swimming pools in 63 of the 79 villas and suites. With a focus on privacy, the resort is ideally located on Phuket’s northwest shoreline. Sensitively combining rare historical Sino-Portuguese architecture with modern five-star facilities, SALA Phuket is located on pristine Mai Khao Beach on Phuket’s northwest shoreline. The resort is just 20 minutes from Phuket International Airport and a short drive from the famous Blue Canyon Golf Course and picturesque Phang Nga Bay.

Serene luxury

Accommodation at SALA Phuket ranges from an amazing 65 to over 650 square metres, ensuring an abundance of private space, a serene atmosphere and an environment where guests never have to leave the pleasure of their villa to enjoy a perfect beach holiday. Each exquisitely designed room features an open-air outdoor bathroom, private sala and/or sunbathing deck, and private gardens. Amenities include a 40” Smart TV plus MP3 compatible DVD player, and Wi-Fi access is available throughout the resort. With most villas and suites, except Deluxe Balcony, featuring an expansive private pool, the options at SALA Phuket are limitless.

Effortless relaxation

For pure indulgence, the award-winning SALA Spa Phuket offers effortless relaxation with five tranquil air-conditioned treatment rooms, three beachfront massage salas, a complete beauty centre and steam rooms. Treatments range from traditional Thai massages and authentic herbal compress massages to invigorating body treatments and soothing wraps. The SALA Spa’s primary aim is to help you reach a greater sense of equilibrium and wellbeing.

The resort features three beachfront swimming pools and dining venues including the open-air beachfront restaurant, romantic rooftop or a candlelit table on the beach to enjoy fine or casual dining options with an exceptional choice of mouthwatering international and scrumptious Thai delicacies.

Additional facilities include a fully equipped gym, guest lounge and meeting room with a full range of conference services.

With its vast and private, pristine golden sand beach, lush beachside lawns, surrounded by a coconut tree plantation, SALA Phuket is the ideal location for a family holiday or even a destination wedding.
Welcome to a world of contemporary grandeur at this romantic sanctuary by the sea. Nestled in a tropical hillside rainforest, above a pristine beach, The Nai Harn is an icon of Phuket.

The resort recently unveiled a complete transformation with a host of new features and culinary experiences including a stunning 50-metre rooftop pool lounge, a cocktail list prepared by former legendary barman Salim Khoury at The Savoy in London plus glamorous additions such as a “press for Champagne” button in all suites, a mini putting green on select balconies and a BBQ Butler for bespoke sizzle sessions on private terraces.

Settle into your own private sanctuary. As the only member of the Leading Hotels of The World in Phuket, The Nai Harn offers the largest non-villa rooms on the island.

The expansive rooms showcase the glorious view of Promthep Cape, with thoughtfully laid out floor plans leading out to spacious terraces and are complete with cutting-edge technology, contemporary design, plush fabrics and luxurious amenities.

The Nai Harn cultivates the ultimate in seaside luxury. Discover all this enchanting sanctuary has to offer through a range of sophisticated amenities. Luxuriate by the swimming pool as you take in stunning views of the azure bay.

Delight in fresh and contemporary dining concepts combined with a stunning seaside location. Enjoy Mediterranean delights and local delicacies at Cosmo, or lounge at the glamorous, chilled-out beachside restaurant Rock Salt as you sip colourful cocktails and nibble on wood-fired pizza or spicy satay. Innovative, international menus and one of the finest dining-with-a-view experiences on the island make The Nai Harn the pre-eminent Phuket dining destination.

The Spa at The Nai Harn offers a mix of traditional treatments, cutting-edge therapies and sought-after indulgences. Throw in a few eclectic inventions from the spa team and you’ve got an ocean of treats derived from the purest of natural ingredients and handpicked products.

Considered one of Thailand’s best beaches, Nai Harn Beach is one of Phuket’s most popular destinations. Its tranquil waters are perfect for swimming and are a great starting point for island excursions.

Other local attractions include Ya Nui and Ao Sane, both great for snorkelling, as well as the majestic overlook at Promthep Cape. Key entertainment and shopping areas are only a short drive away.
JW MARRIOTT PHUKET RESORT & SPA

JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa
located on beautiful Mai Khao Beach is situated on 11 hectares of exquisite tropical gardens with three swimming pools, freshwater ponds and natural coastal wetlands overlooking the Andaman Sea.

The resort, only 15 minutes from Phuket International Airport, offers entertainment, relaxation, gourmet dining and a variety of new experiences for the whole family. It enjoys an idyllic setting with 11 international restaurants and bars, an award-winning spa, a boutique shopping village and offers a range of sightseeing excursions.

JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa comprises a sophisticated selection of guestrooms and suites. Each is elegantly appointed and ocean facing with stunning views of the lush tropical gardens and pools.

For the ultimate in luxury the resort’s suites are designed for those seeking total privacy and the quintessential tropical resort experience. Each suite includes a spacious terrace with sun loungers and a secluded Thai sala for private terrace dining. The Oceanfront Pool Suites boast their own 18-square metre infinity pool, a luxurious touch that allows guests to experience the ultimate island lifestyle.

For those who wish to venture out, the surrounding area boasts many activities. Visit other smaller islands or experience elephant trekking, safaris and the rich local culture. For the more active guests, Thai boxing, yoga, aerobics, pilates, diving, and watersports, with a selection of equipment for hire, are all on offer.

The three magnificent swimming pools invite guests for a cooling swim. For meetings, events, weddings, or conferences, incentives and corporate retreats, the resort combines both business and relaxation with world-class meetings and events facilities. As an Eco-destination, a crafted team offers customised team building and CSR initiative programs are destined to exceed your expectations.

JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa also has an extensive selection of spa options. The award-winning Mandara Spa, famous for its four-hand signature massage, offers a complete range of traditional and Western luxurious spa treatments with a particular emphasis on Thai massage and beauty therapies. Each treatment suite opens on to a private tropical garden with outdoor showers and a herbal steam room.

For meetings, events, weddings, or conferences, incentives and corporate retreats, the resort combines both business and relaxation with world-class meetings and events facilities. As an Eco-destination, a crafted team offers customised team building and CSR initiative programs are destined to exceed your expectations.

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LAGUNA PHUKET

Asia’s premier destination resort, Laguna Phuket, is a holiday paradise of seven deluxe hotels and villas spanning 1,000 acres of tropical parkland along a three-kilometre stretch of pristine beach at Bangtao Bay on Phuket’s west coast.

Facilities and activities include the award-winning, 18-hole Laguna Golf Phuket, world-renowned Banyan Tree and Angsana spas, restaurants, bars, boutique shopping, private charters and join-in luxury tours, canoeing, sailing and, of course the pristine beaches and azure waters of the Andaman Sea. Home of leading international events such as the annual Laguna Phuket Triathlon, Laguna Phuket Marathon and Laguna Phuket Food and Music Festival, the resort has become the regional venue of choice for high-profile international sports and lifestyle events.

Everywhere within the resort is easily accessed within minutes by shuttle boats and buses.

**Angsana Laguna Phuket**
Angsana Laguna Phuket features vibrant and stylish rooms and facilities designed for the dynamic cosmopolitan traveller. Watch sunlight glint off sparkling lagoons. Stroll along pristine beaches lapped by cool waters. Sift warm white sand through your fingers and float along Angsana Laguna Phuket resort’s free-form pool meandering 323 metres around the beachfront resort. Have a fun-filled vacation with friends, a romantic getaway with your loved one or an enjoyable time bonding with family.

**Angsana Villas Resort Phuket**
At Angsana Villas Resort Phuket, you can find stunning residential-style accommodations, including private villas with kitchen, dining and living areas; pool villas with lap pools and Thai sala pavilions, and contemporary, single-level and dual-level suites adjacent to the swimming pool, Kid’s Club, and Panache restaurant.

**Banyan Tree Phuket**
Encircling the sparkling waters of a saltwater lagoon, the Banyan Tree luxury resort in Phuket is a sanctuary of hushed repose, the perfect backdrop to the perfectly planned holiday. This all-villa resort showcases the island’s extraordinary beauty in a setting of award-winning architecture, built in harmony with nature. Enter the hidden world of Banyan Tree Phuket and step into a tropical fairytale where the roads are lined with casuarinas and palms, the fields are bright with Allamanda blooms and the Bangtao Bay always sparkles in sapphire brilliance.

**Cassia Phuket**
A completely new hospitality concept, Cassia features cutting-edge design, colorful “street art” décor by young Asian talents, stylish serviced
residences, cool markets, fresh seafood, Andaman’s awesome beaches and a trendy island vibe.

Get comfy in the fabulous serviced apartments, each with stylish living and chef-perfect kitchens, daily buffet brekkie, free Wi-Fi and swanky hangout spots in the resort or beyond Laguna Complex. Socialise with like-minded global nomads across the world. Come and live the best of both worlds at Cassia Phuket.

Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket
This sanctuary of tranquillity, Dusit Phuket Hotel is shaded by native casuarinas and coconut palms and is situated a few steps away from Bangtao Beach. Each of the 253 rooms and suites, plus 28 exclusive two-bedroom Pool Villas features unique neo-colonial architecture underpinned by modern Thai-style. Gentle breezes waft through the vaulted ceilings of the open-air lobby, carrying the sound of breaking waves from the adjacent Bangtao Beach.

Laguna Holiday Club Phuket Resort
The resort features 44 spacious suites available in three room types ranging from 65-113 square metres. All suites feature separate living and dining areas, convenient kitchens and furnishings. Resort amenities available to guests include a swimming pool with waterslide, a pool bar, restaurant, kids’ club, game room, and free wireless connection within the resort.

Outrigger Laguna Phuket Beach Resort
Outrigger Laguna Phuket Beach Resort has a premier beachfront setting at Bangtao Bay. Here, you’ll be captivated by the tranquil lagoon, stylish dining inspired by Thai and international cuisine, and the exclusive Voyager 47 Club Lounge and rooms for travellers who expect the very best.

Indulge yourself at the day spa or enjoy the family fun in the swimming pool with a 55-metre waterslide. Envision a romantic wedding at sunset, ocean adventure on the Andaman Sea, or a family holiday with joyful memories you’ll treasure forever.

Whether you’re travelling with friends, family or planning a romantic escape, Laguna Phuket offers something for everyone with ample opportunities for fun, romance, relaxation and exploring.
DEWA NAI YANG BEACH PHUKET

Discover a true Thai paradise at Dewa Nai Yang Beach Phuket surrounded by natural beauty.

Conveniently just a few minutes from Phuket International Airport, yet far enough away to enjoy uninterrupted tranquility, the resort is perfectly placed away from the crowds on a quiet stretch of beach. It is just a few steps away from the stunning, undeveloped and protected Sirinath National Park beach area.

A stylish boutique resort, Dewa Nai Yang Beach Phuket offers private pool villas and one- and two-bedroom suites that capture Thailand’s rustic tropical elements with accents of luxurious Sino-Portuguese design.

The resort seamlessly integrates both resort and residential living. The private pool villas are designed with couples in mind with a refreshing plunge pool and exterior bathroom with double basin, bathtub and rain shower. Junior Suites are fully furnished with all the comforts of home and provide ample living space including a balcony perfect for relaxing and a convenient kitchenette. The two-bedroom family suites offer a second bedroom that is ideal for children.

Dewa Nai Yang Beach Phuket is designed for your optimal comfort and ease in mind. Two large swimming pools are perfect for soaking up the sun and the pristine beach is just a few steps away. Activities include kayaking, snorkelling, stand-up paddle boarding, yoga, cooking classes and various sight-seeing tours that can be easily booked at the front desk. Two well-equipped fitness centres and the delightful spa is the ideal place to switch off and indulge in true relaxation with a wide range of soothing and revitalising massages and beauty treatments.

Enjoy relaxed dining at Terrace Grill Restaurant that offers Thai specialties, using fresh ingredients, as well as Western inspired cuisine. The bakery serves freshly brewed coffee, tea, healthy juice, homemade pastries and sandwiches. The Bamboo Bar is the ideal place to watch the sunset over the Andaman Sea with a cold beer or cocktail in hand. In-room dining is available for breakfast, lunch and dinner, with the option of a private barbecue in the villas.

Whether you’re looking for a memorable holiday with the family or a romantic escape, the team at Dewa Nai Yang Beach Phuket will welcome you with personalised Thai hospitality.

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PATONG RESORT HOTEL

For an enjoyable island escape, this superb resort occupies one of the best locations in Phuket.

Tropical paradise
Well-appointed rooms, excellent facilities, hospitable staff and extensive grounds make Patong Resort Hotel the perfect choice for your visit to the tropical paradise of Phuket.

Just 45 minutes from Phuket International Airport, Patong Resort Hotel is ideally situated only a few minutes walk from Patong Beach as well as great dining, entertainment and shopping outlets and Patong’s famous nightlife. From here, enjoy all the watersports on offer, or head out and discover the numerous activities the island has to offer including dive trips, snorkelling, island hopping or a game of golf.

Patong Resort Hotel comprises a selection of 325 rooms in a variety of categories including Superior, Deluxe, Premium Deluxe, Executive and Grand Suite. Rooms are well appointed in Sino-Portuguese style with teak wood furniture.

All rooms are non-smoking and equipped with modern amenities including air-conditioning, refrigerator, mini bar, television, telephone and bathtub with shower. For added luxury and perfect for families, the Grand Suite category offers extra space and consists of a separate bedroom, living and dining room.

Patong Resort offers a wide variety of activities and facilities for a fun-filled family holiday. Set within the resort’s extensive gardens are two fantastic swimming pools, a mini plaza complete with a tailor shop, a hairdresser and a gift shop. The hotel’s tour desk can organise excursions around Phuket and neighbouring islands.

Delicious dining
Guests can choose from a wide variety of delicious dining options that cater to all tastes. In the gardens by the pool, Pavarotti’s poolside restaurant serves fine Italian cuisine. The charcoal grill kitchen serves tasty and juicy imported steaks, complemented by wines from the extensive wine list at The Roof Top Steak House.

Alfresco Sky Bar is located on the eighth floor of the main building and is the perfect spot to watch the sunset over Patong Bay. Relax in a cozy atmosphere with a refreshing drink at The Marble Bar where an extensive wine list is also available.

The Patong Resort is well equipped to host a range of functions and events with an expansive conference hall and meeting rooms. The resort’s capable staff can easily organise memorable, fully catered events, large or small.
Patong Beach Hotel is proud to present excellent service, intimate privacy, charming décor and modern amenities and facilities.

Only 45 kilometres from Phuket International Airport, the resort is set within a natural setting in the heart of Patong by the emerald Andaman Sea. The resort is perfectly situated within easy access to nightlife and shopping.

Unique charm

Delight in unique elegance and charm at this extensive resort with a selection of rooms and suites spread across several wings that seamlessly blend traditional Thai and modern design elements. Amenities include bathtub and shower, air-conditioning, IDD telephone, TV, mini bar, refrigerator, 24-hour room service, laundry service, safety box, coffee and tea making facilities, hair dryer, slippers, bathrobe and umbrellas.

The Siam Wing offers 103 rooms overlooking the Siam pool as well as lush gardens below. Appointed with earth-tones and wooden accents, these rooms are reminiscent of a traditional Thai home.

The Superior Sunrise Wing features 30 Superior Rooms overlooking the resort’s main pool. Bright and warm colours evoke enlightened relaxation and the room’s balcony allows for a full view of the beautiful Phuket dawn.

The Sunset Wing boasts 112 rooms set within the 10-storey main tower, most offering a breathtaking view of the Andaman sea. Rooms are appointed with distinct Thai themes and traditional crafts infused with influences of modern design elements. A combination of island living and vibrant colours creates the perfect ambience.

Spacious suites offer additional room and luxuries perfect for those seeking the ultimate luxury in a home-away-from-home. All suites offer separate living and outdoor areas and some feature wrap-around balconies and private outdoor jacuzzis.

Extensive resort facilities include the Banana Shopping Plaza, two outdoor swimming pools, a children’s pool, fitness centre and tour desk.

Guests are spoiled for choice with a tantalising array of dining options. Start your day with a sumptuous breakfast buffet at The Andaman Coffee Shop. The Deck is perfect for a casual bite while relaxing around the pool. Enjoy a dinner with loved ones at the Andaman Garden while Papaya Thai Village offers a selection of authentic Thai specialties. For exotic drinks and cocktails the Banana Pub and Banana Discotheque offer a lively, fun atmosphere.
Koh Samui is an oasis of natural beauty with white sandy beaches and crystal clear water.

Roughly circular in shape, the island is the third largest island in Thailand after Phuket and Koh Chang and one of the most popular destinations for international travellers. The central part of the island is an almost uninhabitable jungle where Samui’s highest mountain, Khao Pom, peaks at 635 metres. The various lowland areas are connected together by a single 51-kilometre road that meanders mostly along the coast to encircle the bulk of the island.

The old capital Nathon is located on the southwest coast of the island and remains the major port for fishing and inter-island transportation. Nathon is the seat of the regional government and for Samui locals is the recognised commercial hub. It has a charming pace, and is almost small enough to walk everywhere. The old Chinese shophouses along the middle street whisper of an exotic history.

Although Koh Samui is in southern Thailand where Islam has a strong influence, the original inhabitants of the island, known as Chao Samui, are predominantly Buddhist.

In the past, most of the locals made their living in the coconut farming business. Today, however, most islanders work in jobs related to tourism because in recent years Koh Samui has developed into a popular, tropical beach resort destination. While still maintaining its unique charm, from coconut tree fringed beaches to tropical jungles and a vibrant nightlife, it has something for everyone.

Accommodations range from bungalows and villas to five-star boutique resorts and are suitable for all budgets. There are fine dining restaurants that offer a wide range of international and exotic local Thai dishes. If pampering is high on your list, there are many day spas available.

Koh Samui offers an abundance of activities including elephant trekking, canoeing, sailing, diving, golfing, fishing, cycling and almost anything else you can think of! Nature lovers will find it a paradise of waterfalls, temples and jungles. There is a butterfly garden, aquarium, tiger zoo, monkey theatre, snake and crocodile farm to visit. Day tours to the neighbouring islands of Koh Phangan, Koh Tao and the Anghthon Marine National Park are also highly recommended.

With direct flights to Samui Airport from Bangkok, Singapore and Hong Kong as well as ferry services from Suratthani, Koh Samui is conveniently accessible.

Koh Samui boasts many popular beaches including Chaweng and with its white sandy beaches, coral reefs and coconut trees it is easy to see why travellers from all over the world make it their preferred holiday destination.
W Koh Samui, an all-pool villa beachfront resort, is located at the peak of the north shore of Thailand’s famed Samui Island amidst a modern paradise of vibrant foliage and pristine beaches.

A modern playground for the discerning leisure traveller, the retreat offers signature services and amenities bringing a new level of indulgence to this renowned Thai island. Exclusive experiences include W’s signature Whatever/Whenever® service philosophy, providing guests with whatever they desire, from an exclusive private dinner on a deserted beach to an intimate sunset wedding, or an impromptu island hopping excursion.

A contemporary paradise
W Koh Samui has been designed as a contemporary paradise, offering an escape for guests who seek something extraordinary. The retreat features 74 private pool villas, designed using a blend of modern elements. The luxurious villas are equipped with modern lifestyle innovations and boast their own private pool, daybeds and also feature luxurious bathrooms and an outdoor shower. All villas enjoy modern conveniences such as a Yamaha sound system, 46” plasma screen TV, wine refrigerator and the signature W bed.

The W Lounge, magnificently designed and offering stunning ocean vistas, welcomes guests as they arrive at the retreat. Upon entry, guests will experience interactive digital floor projections that give way to an environment accented with off-white terrazzo floors, high ceilings clad in angular bleached wood veneer panels and oversized lamps. Inspired by the shape of a lotus flower, a key element of the W Lounge is the water feature and relaxation area that gives guests spectacular panoramic views of the islands and seascape. Enjoy exceptional dining options at The Kitchen Table that serves freshly baked treats, gourmet pizzas and buffets. Sample Japanese at W Koh Samui’s signature restaurant, Namu, that offers a modern reinvention of Asian cuisine styles in an intimate, sensual dining atmosphere.

Indulge at Away Spa, W’s signature spa for a blissful escape. Away Spa comprises of 576-square metres of indoor and outdoor spa treatment areas and features signature treatments including Thaimazcal®, massages, facials and body treatments, manicures and pedicures as well as a range of therapies incorporating local Thai influences. Guests will also be able to enjoy the WET pool, a state-of-the-art fitness centre (FIT), watersports centre (WAVE) and tennis court (SWING).
SALA Samui Choengmon Beach is a stunning pool villa resort featuring private swimming pools in 53 out of a total of 69 villas and suites.

Relaxing ambience
The resort offers a comfortable, relaxing ambience by harmoniously blending traditional Thai architecture with modern facilities and amenities.

The friendly staff is dedicated to pampering guests with professional, personalised service.

Located on the secluded Choeng Mon Beach on the northeast corner of Koh Samui, SALA Samui Choengmon Beach is just 10 minutes from the Samui Airport, 10 minutes from Bo Phut’s quaint Fisherman’s Village, and only 10 minutes from the shopping and nightlife at Chaweng Beach.

Accommodations include an abundance of private space and a serene atmosphere with most boasting a private swimming pool (except the Deluxe Balcony Rooms) and charming open-air, outdoor bathrooms with a shower or tub set in lush gardens. Air-conditioning combined with whirring ceiling fans creates a perfect tropical ambience. The villas and suites offer all the luxuries five-star guests expect including SALA Signature Services.

SALA Samui Choengmon Beach believes that dining is not just a meal, but that it is a journey of flavours and culinary creations from around the world. With this in mind, the resort offers two dining options, including an in-villa menu, that are sure to please the most sophisticated palate.

The SALA Spa is set within fragrant tropical gardens and guarantees a serene respite from daily stresses. There are four private air-conditioned treatment rooms suitable for couples and four massage salas that “float” on a beautiful lotus pond. The comprehensive spa menu will leave you feeling relaxed and rejuvenated and you can even enjoy a traditional Thai massage outdoors under the shade of the poolside sala by the beach.

The resort boasts two beachfront pools including a stunning 25-metre lap pool as well as a fully equipped gym. The on-site gift shop is perfect for last minute shopping and high speed Wi-Fi throughout the resort will keep you in touch with the rest of the world.

With its excellent facilities, spacious public space and 80 metres of white, sandy beachfront, the resort is ideally suited for both families and those who seek a romantic getaway.
BANYAN TREE SAMUI

Overlooking the scenic Lamai Bay, this Samui luxury resort, featuring elevated structures designed to reflect traditional Thai architecture, is nestled in a series of cascading terraces on a private hill cove on the southeastern coast of Koh Samui.

Banyan Tree Samui's all-pool villas are designed especially for discerning guests. Each villa is appointed with modern comforts such as air-conditioning, flat screen TV and complimentary Wi-Fi. Considerate touches such as personal pillow selection, turndown services and an extensive bath menu will further enhance your holiday experience.

The villas are perfectly framed by swaying palms and landscaped gardens. Bask in the sun and enjoy your private pool in the Deluxe Pool Villa. Ocean View Pool Villas offer sensational views of the sea and tropical foliage. Rejuvenate body, mind and soul in the privacy of one of the Spa Sanctuary Pool Villas equipped with a personal open-air spa treatment space.

Further uphill, Horizon Hillcrest Pool Villas command majestic vistas of the ocean and lush foliage. Royal Banyan Ocean Pool Villas are set on the loft of the resort, perfect for watching dawn break over the horizon from your private sala.

Family Pool Villas with two bedrooms offer a suitable option for families or groups of friends. Indulge in the ultimate island getaway in the large Presidential Pool Villa that boasts two private pools, a beautifully decorated sala and magnificent views of the Gulf of Thailand.

Banyan Tree Samui offers outstanding dining options. Enjoy a meticulously prepared authentic Thai menu at Saffron, or head to The Edge for international favourites and local specialties. Sands is located on the beach and its specialty is char-grill and wood fire oven cuisine. The Lobby Lounge is perfect for thirst-quenching cocktails with a tropical twist. A selection of snacks and an innovative list of carefully created cocktails formulated specially by Banyan Tree mixologists await you at the Pool Bar.

The very best of Koh Samui spa treatments and therapies developed in the award-winning Banyan Tree tradition awaits you at this secret hideaway. Featuring Koh Samui’s first hydrotherapy spa, The Rainforest is a holistic and innovative wellness experience designed to heal and soothe. Banyan Tree Samui also features an events centre consisting of a pre-function room, two meeting rooms and a ballroom. Fitness facilities include a gym, yoga room, swimming pool with kids' pool, library, games room and a kids' club.
Since opening in 1987, The Tongsai Bay has established itself as the leading family owned hotel on the tropical island of Koh Samui, Thailand.

Only 10 minutes from the airport, set amidst lush tropical gardens on a hillside overlooking a secluded bay, the hotel is renowned for its privacy and tranquility, its love for the environment, green practices and the friendliness of its staff.

The Tongsai Bay comprises 83 suites, cottages and villas. All accommodation offers mesmerising ocean views and spacious terraces enabling guests to enjoy their natural surroundings.

Beachfront Suites are located in a three-storey chalet-style building fronting onto a beautiful free-form swimming pool with the beach beyond. Cottage Suites stand amidst coconut trees and tropical gardens on a hillside looking out to sea.

The Seafront Cottages have the same design and facilities as Cottage Suites including the signature bath-with-a-view and Pool Cottages additionally offer a private plunge pool. The McGuigan Cottage has an extra large living area and one of the best views of the bay. The Hideaway Cottage is located in splendid isolation away from the rest of the resort. The Viewpoint Family Cottage is the ideal family choice and it comes with two bedrooms.

Tongsai Grand Villas are luxuriously furnished, featuring a vast open air terrace complete with signature bath-with-a-view, a four-poster bed, dining area and sun loungers. The sea views are far reaching and the sense of privacy and tranquillity is astounding. Spectacular Pool Villas and Seafront Pool Villas additionally feature their own private pools. The Akorn Villa boasts a vast open-air terrace with a large L-shaped pool. Atop the hillside, Nang Gong Villa is an exclusive villa boasting a private pool, private rear garden, and spectacular sweeping views of Tongsai Bay and neighbouring Cheong Mon beach.

The hotel’s dining options cover a variety of cuisines to cater to the most discerning palates and satisfy the heartiest appetites from authentic Thai dishes to Western favourites. For a truly special occasion, a personal dining service, complete with a personal chef is available.

The Tongsai Bay offers two swimming pools, a tennis court, gym and an abundance of watersports. After a busy day let your mind and body unwind at the resort’s unique Prana Spa with a variety of massage and spa treatments.
OUTRIGGER KOH SAMUI BEACH RESORT

A luxurious beachside haven, the Outrigger Koh Samui Beach Resort welcomes you to a sanctuary of privacy overlooking the tranquil clear waters of Hanuman Bay.

Spectacular granite headlands and swaying palms create an atmosphere where true relaxation can be found. Here, immerse yourself in the tranquility of your own tropical hideaway, indulge in exciting days of sun-splashed ocean adventure and wonderfully romantic nights dining under the stars.

Complete with luxurious amenities, first-class facilities and outstanding service, this stylish beach resort offers guests a one-of-a-kind experience on the beautiful island of Koh Samui that is sure to make your holiday truly unforgettable.

Accommodation at Outrigger Koh Samui Beach Resort comprises a select collection of private pool suites and villas in garden, ocean view and ocean front categories. Crafted with your comfort in mind, all accommodation features quality fittings and amenities with an open plan layout, high ceilings, air-conditioning, complimentary Wi-Fi, a private plunge pool, and a generous sun deck with comfortable daybed.

Soothe your senses at the serene Navasana spa. Find serenity with local healing traditions and ancient wisdom that are combined with therapeutic treatments from around the world. Purify and rejuvenate body and mind to natural equilibrium and refreshed energy.

Resort facilities include two restaurants, a swimming pool with swim-up bar. Indulge in creative Thai and Western cuisine featuring grill options and fresh seafood, as well as an extensive menu of wine, beer, and exotic cocktails.

The resort encourages you to do as little or as much as you desire. Whether you plan to simply lounge by the sea or prefer to take part in more energetic pursuits, there are options to suit everyone. Enjoy snorkelling on the reef, just 200 metres offshore, kayaking, paddle boarding, day trips to Ang Thong National Park or cooking classes, the choice is yours.

The Outrigger Koh Samui Resort and Spa team has also created a special wedding package that guarantees that the bride and groom enjoy everything they could ever imagine on their special day. In one exclusive package, a team of decorators, florists and service staff will design a stunning beachfront setting where natural beauty is complemented by an elegant and understated theme.

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Tel: +66 77 417 300 Fax: +66 77 417 360 Email: kohsamui@outrigger.co.th www.outriggerthailand.com
Nestled in a serene cove on the island paradise of Koh Samui, Kanda Residences offer the perfect luxury retreat for families, groups, friends or couples alike.

**Luxury villas**

Epitomising style, elegance, comfort and privacy, the villas are available with one, two, three or four bedrooms. Courtyard Pool Villas are one level villas offering partial sea views with plenty of surrounding greenery. Balcony Pool Villas have a higher vantage point, offering ocean views from the second floor master bedroom. The signature Oceanfront Pool Villas boast an outstanding location right alongside the beach with stunning, uninterrupted views of the Gulf of Thailand.

All villas feature a spacious separate living and dining space while the air-conditioned bathrooms are complete with vanity, rain shower, large bathtub in the master bedroom and full amenities. In-villa kitchen facilities open out to a large private pool furnished with sun loungers along with an outdoor gazebo giving guests ample space to enjoy a range of optional personalised services including an in-villa cooking class or barbecue and private party events.

RockPool, one of Koh Samui’s finest restaurants, delivers an exemplary culinary experience that combines the best of East and West in a setting that is nothing short of breathtaking. Appropriately named, this elegant dining spot sits just inches from the sea. The decked terrace offers discerning diners an unparalleled view of the ocean and coastline to make the overall experience of a visit to Rockpool truly unforgettable.

The Asian Wellness Centre focuses on Thai wellness treatments using the methodology taught at the world famous Wat Pho Temple in Bangkok.

Children from 3-11 years will enjoy a perfect vacation complete with fun filled indoor and outdoor activities.

With the crystal clear waters of the Gulf of Thailand serving as a backdrop during the day and moonlit skies filled with stars taking the stage at night, there can be few more idyllic locations to celebrate your special occasion than on the shores of Kanda Residences.

Situated on the north-east coast of Koh Samui, minutes from Cheong Mon’s family friendly beaches and the action and nightlife of Chaweng, Kanda Residences is perfectly situated to provide seclusion and privacy while allowing easy access to all Samui has to offer.
SILAVADEE POOL SPA RESORT

This luxurious hideaway offers warm Thai hospitality to those wishing to experience serenity and romance in a stunning, natural environment.

Luxurious sanctuary
On the picture perfect Laem Nan Beach, between Chaweng and Lamai Beach where beautiful granite boulders enclose a private and secluded secret beach, Silavadee Pool Spa Resort blends harmoniously with the lush natural landscape.

The suites and villas are lavishly designed with elegant, handmade teak furniture and exquisite fabrics. They are equipped with modern amenities including air-conditioning, a private balcony with daybed and complimentary Wi-Fi.

The suites have a separate living room and bathroom, while luxurious villas boast their own private infinity-edged swimming pool with a private outdoor living area. An outdoor shower and aqua jet massage bed ensures relaxation within the confines of the private residences. For the ultimate in Thai hospitality, a 24-hour concierge service is available to help you with any requests such as restaurant recommendations, arranging exclusive island tours, babysitting services and private barbecues.

Venture out and explore the natural beauty of Koh Samui with a variety of excursions from island hopping and snorkelling to visits to coconut plantations and waterfalls. For those wishing to keep active there is a state-of-the-art fitness centre and various sport activities at the resort including beach soccer, beach volleyball, kayaking, tai chi, thai boxing and yoga.

Total relaxation
Embrace serenity and revitalisation at Silavadee Wellness Spa, for a truly unique spa experience blending ancient Thai and modern Western massage techniques. The beneficial treatments will leave you feeling totally relaxed, refreshed and rejuvenated.

Enjoy first-class cuisine and fine service amidst spectacular sea views. Elevate your senses at The Height restaurant where seclusion, romance and breathtaking views will best sum up your experience here. Sun Moon Star restaurant offers an all-day dining restaurant, with a variety of international dishes, fresh seafood and traditional Thai cuisine to suit the most discerning palates. The Wine & Cigar Lounge Offers refreshments, cocktails and snacks with a selection of premium wines and cigars.

Private barbecues, group parties and wedding receptions can also be arranged. For intimate meetings in a tropical island paradise there is a meeting room for up to 50 attendees with a projector, white board, audio and visual equipment and Wi-Fi.
The Library is a stunning conceptual hotel created under a semi-minimalist architectural style and shaped by the hands of an island local who was inspired by books.

Voted as Thailand’s No. 1 trendiest hotel on TripAdvisor, The Library contains an intimate collection of rooms, suites and villas, all built in a contemporary style and equipped with ultra-chic modern facilities. The pure vibration of white spaces wash over as relaxation overtakes. This sheer absence of stimulation is an effect in itself, there is no clutter, no paintings to irk and no busy prints to agitate.

New additions to the property include the luxurious Bookmark, and an expansive two-bedroom suite, perfect for families on holiday. Here, soft flowing fabrics create a tactile contrast to sleek furnishings, accentuated by cool high-end gadgets and an impressive inset jacuzzi. Collectively called Secret Chapters, new luxurious pool villas will be available from April 2017.

The Library offers a service concept that is unique in character from other properties on the island. Each service outlet and accommodation space is equipped with convenient facilities, but at the same time, provides a touch of nature. This ensures that guests remember their holiday as a fantastic experience with the opportunity to get closer to the earth.

Gastronomic originality
For the ultimate breakfast in bed experience, guests can lay on one of the crisp white mattresses dotting the beach at The Page restaurant, an all-day dining venue, recently inducted into the famed list of best restaurants by Thailand Tatler three years in a row. Cuisine at The Page is a mix of Thai and International with a special focus on rare old-kingdom Thai cuisine.

The hotel’s expanded beach bar is famous for its extensive selection of 101 different cocktails. The Library’s penchant for gastronomic originality extends to the Drink Gallery, an alfresco Tapas Bar that serves authentic Thai tapas and desserts at affordable prices.

An award-winning red swimming pool is surrounded by a wooden deck with direct views of the beach, and the hotel’s namesake in-house library has a collection of over 1402 books available to borrow. A full wall of glass provides natural light that softens and warms the space which also offers computer workstations and a large comfortable lounge.

If you want to enjoy a relaxing book-reading lifestyle where simple sophistication is king, The Library is sure to inspire and indulge your imagination.
Within a pure and unspoiled environment of greenery and pristine beaches, discover a paradise for travellers seeking a peaceful and romantic haven for relaxation and rejuvenation.

Centrally located on Choeng Mon Beach in northeast Samui, this idyllic beachfront resort is just four kilometres from Samui International Airport.

Sheer luxury and intimate services

Accommodation includes an exclusive selection of 79 luxurious suites in a range of categories including garden view and pool villas. All are beautifully appointed with crafted wooden furniture and are furnished in soothing natural tones that reflect sophisticated elements of nature and Thai culture.

For the ultimate comfort, modern amenities and in-room facilities include a spacious outdoor terrace or balcony, bathroom with his and hers washbasins and a large whirlpool jacuzzi. For entertainment there is a wide-screen LCD TV and DVD player and all suites have a refrigerator and electric kettle. Pool villas offer a dining area with coffee maker and kitchenette facilities while complimentary Wi-Fi is available throughout the resort.

Be spoiled for choice with a range of memorable dining options. Idyllic and breathtaking beachfront dining awaits at Spice Zone Beach Restaurant, the resort’s signature dining venue that features a choice of Thai, Italian and other international favourites.

For the ultimate romantic experience, enjoy a private dinner on the beach with a loved one or dine at Samui Sailor Grill & Restaurant that offers a fusion of international dishes.

Adjacent is Ciccio Ristorante & Pizzeria where you can choose between fine Italian cuisine and pizzas. To experience the traditional Thai way of living, visit the floating market for a lively evening. The market is held weekly and offers a variety of foods and drinks to tempt you while you enjoy live, local performances.

Cast the worries of the world aside and indulge in tension releasing massages and other pampering treatments at Cave Rai Ra Beach Spa that enjoys a beautiful and peaceful cave-themed environment. Relax by the enormous swimming pool that is surrounded by tropical gardens or keep fit and energised in the fitness room. State-of-the-art facilities and ideal venues combined with the exceptional assistance of a dedicated team cater to an extensive range of events.
A hedonistic experience awaits those seeking a laid back and chill holiday on the stunning island of Koh Samui.

Chic, fashionable and sophisticated. The Privilege offers luxurious accommodation options. There are 37 guestrooms, suites and villas offering connecting doors and multiple configurations to accommodate groups from small to large.

Trendy yet traditional, Deluxe Pool View Rooms are hip and fun offering all you need for an enjoyable holiday featuring an outdoor sitting area. Pool Access Rooms connect to make the perfect family suite combination amidst the excitement of the pool, bar, sun, sand and sea right outside your door.

Pool Villas are beachfront offering amazing views from morning until sunset with two 18 square metre private pools.

Presidential Suites feature an oversized terrace, jacuzzi, indoor and outdoor sofas, dining table for six and private bar, sitting atop the resort with panoramic views of the ocean, swaying palms and neighbouring islands. The Suite offers an exclusive level of amenities and service.

The Presidential Floor features a private bar, terrace jacuzzi, indoor outdoor living room, dining table for six, 24-hour privilege butler service, car and driver on standby, luxury branded amenities and 24-hour security.

Koh Samui is home to many award winning spas with various themes from health and wellness to indulgent relaxation. The hotel works with some of the best and will ensure your spa journey is exactly as you wish. An in-room massage service is available on request and as a special treat, there are often random complimentary massages poolside.

Koh Samui and the surrounding island offer a great deal of variety when it comes to activities. Aside from the amazing beaches, guests can enjoy thrilling activities such as kite-boarding, trekking through mountainous jungles, tropical waterfalls and excellent diving and snorkelling.

Located in Bangrak only five minutes from Fisherman Village, 10 minutes from Samui International Airport and 15 minutes from the heart of Chaweng, all that Koh Samui has to offer is within easy reach.
Buri Rasa Village is a cosy boutique resort where contemporary and traditional design elements are combined together with touches of elegance.

Located on the northeast side of Koh Phangan, hidden amidst swaying palm trees on a secluded white sandy beach with clear turquoise water, you will find Buri Rasa Village. Koh Phangan is widely known for the full moon party festival yet it contains many of the most beautiful beaches of the region and also has some of the most famous snorkelling and scuba diving sites in the world. Inland there are many beautiful waterfalls and hiking trails. Or you can just simply laze around on the beach and be pampered in paradise.

The resort is just a short 40-minute ride from Koh Samui by resort speedboat. Koh Samui serves direct flights from Bangkok, Phuket, Chiang Mai, Pattaya, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Hong Kong. From the moment you arrive you will feel relaxed and pampered while experiencing a tropical island paradise complemented with friendly, personal and caring hospitality.

Accommodation options include Deluxe, Deluxe Pool View, Ocean View Deluxe, Ocean Front Deluxe, Rasa Ocean View and Rasa Ocean Front. Each room has a balcony or terrace and is equipped with a flat-screen TV with international channels, a DVD player, a fridge and mini bar with complimentary bottled water replenished each day, en suite bathroom with rain shower plus bathrobes and towels. There’s a daily housekeeping and turn-down service, plus room service is also available on request, and there is free Wi-Fi throughout the resort.

One of the longest established beach restaurants on Koh Phangan, The Beach Club @ Buri Rasa Koh Phangan offers a variety of authentic Thai, barbecue and Western cuisines. The restaurant combines local ingredients with modern techniques to create a dynamic Thai flavour making an exciting and memorable seaside dining experience.

Meandering toward the beach of Thong Nai Pan Noi, you will find Buri Rasa Village Square. Along the shaded cobbled street enjoy a glass of fine wine, a fresh fruit shake or find the perfect souvenir in one of the traditional Thai shops.

The resort specialises in orchestrating the perfect beach weddings. Each wedding performed is designed exclusively for the lucky couple to create the perfect atmosphere for unforgettable memories.

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Vietnam has incredible scenic beauty, featuring two main cultivated areas of the Red River Delta in the north and the Mekong River Delta in the south. It is made up of equatorial lowlands, high, temperate plateaus and alpine peaks.

Stretching over 1600 kilometres along the eastern coast of the Indochinese peninsula, Vietnam is bordered by China to the north and Cambodia and Laos to the west.

Capital and major centres
Whilst Ho Chi Minh City is the country’s largest population centre, the capital, Hanoi is the political and cultural centre of Vietnam. Haiphong is the Northern region’s main industrial centre and a major seaport, while Da Nang in the Central region, is promoted as the gateway to Indochina. Other major centres include Dalat in the Central Highlands, renown for its cool climate and beautiful mountain scenery and Kontum in the Central Highlands.

The people
Vietnam’s population is about 90% Viet (Kinh) ethnic people and the rest are 53 other ethnic groups such as Tay, Nung, Muong, Cham, Khmer, Ede, and Hoa. The native language is Vietnamese with the northern and southern dialects differing slightly from each other. Now many Vietnamese young people can also speak English, French, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean.

Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism and Christianity have all served to shape the rich spiritual life of Vietnam, along with the indigenous religion of Caodaism. The main temple for Caodaism is in Tay Ninh city, 90 kilometres northwest of Ho Chi Minh City. It offers daily ceremonies and educational tours.

Nature
Vietnam is lush and tropical with much jungle and vegetation ranging from the green Mekong River Delta to forests containing an estimated 12,000 plant species. The country’s wild fauna is enormously diverse and includes elephants, rhinos, leopards, black bears and a variety of monkeys, birds and reptiles. Ho Chi Minh City’s zoo and botanic gardens are a delightful place for a stroll, as are the tree-lined avenues in the Cultural Park (Tao Dan Park).

Food and entertainment
Vietnam offers the opportunity to sample some truly amazing cuisine. There are said to be nearly 500 traditional dishes, ranging from exotic meats such as bat and cobra, to a variety of fish, vegetables, spices and sauces. As a guide, food in the Central region tends to be spicy, while the Northern region cuisine is mild. The Southern region has an understandable accent on pepper, as Vietnam is the world’s largest producer of the spice. ‘Pho’ is the noodle soup eaten at any time of day and ‘com’ means ‘rice dish’. Because Buddhist monks of the Mahayana tradition are strict vegetarians, many dishes contain tofu, mushrooms and raw, cooked and fermented vegetables. While Vietnamese desserts such as pastry, sticky rice and beans tend to be a little sweet for foreign palates, the selection of local fruits is amazing. Try green dragon fruit, jujube, longan, pomelo, three-seed cherry and water apple. A word of warning, smoking is still allowed in most hotels and restaurants in Vietnam, so it’s advisable to get a table outside or by a window.

In Ho Chi Minh City, entertainment can be found at discos and hotel nightclubs, while bars and cafes are popular throughout the rest of the country. For a local experience, enjoy a ‘Beer Hoi’ at a road side bar. It’s cheap, refreshing and a great way to meet the locals.

The sights
Vietnam’s national parks include: Cat Ba, Ba Be Lake and Cuc Phuong national parks in the north; Bach Ma National Park in the Central region (sponsored by the World Wildlife Fund); and Nam Cat Tien National Park in the south to name a few.

In 2003, another national park, Phong Nha-Ke Bang was recognised as a World Natural Heritage site by UNESCO. Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park offers mountains that are ideal for climbing and exploring and it is also home to archaeological and historical relics along with a range of geographic attractions.
The most recent to find favour with visitors is the Son Doong (Mountain River) Cave. Discovered in 2009, it is claimed to be the world’s largest cave. The other UNESCO recognised sites in Vietnam are Halong Bay, the imperial city of Huế, the ancient quarter of Hoi An and the My Son Sanctuary, the Trang An landscape complex, central sector of Imperial Citadel of Thang Long – Ha Noi, and citadel of the Ho Dynasty.

Getting around
There is a major airport serving each of the three major tourism zones: Ho Chi Minh City serves the Mekong River; Da Nang serves Huế, Hoi An and My Son; and Hanoi provides access to Halong Bay and the mountains. Travel between the three gateway cities is available by air, train and bus. Overnight travel by train or bus is a popular choice for visitors and is inexpensive and relatively comfortable. Chartering a minibus or hiring a car and driver are other viable alternatives. Cabs (some metered, some not) operate in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and most of the major cities.

As a rule, it’s best to avoid travelling by car in major cities during peak hour unless you are not in a hurry. Visitors can hire cyclos (pedicabs) to get around, or there is the option to travel the way the locals do and hire a motor scooter.

With a population of about 95 million, it is easy to think that all Vietnamese people own a scooter. The roads are full of them. Traffic in the major cities is something that needs to be seen to be believed. Despite the vast numbers though, scooter traffic moves like water. It is constantly flowing, sometimes fast, usually slow and occasionally it will pool due to an obstacle, but then find a way to break through and move on.

Walking can prove to be a bit of a challenge, as most footpaths are lined with parked scooters, left there by the locals while they shop or eat.

Shopping
Vietnam is known for its handicrafts, including lacquerware, mother-of-pearl inlay, ceramics, bamboo products, jewellery, silk goods, intricately carved statues and paintings. In Hanoi, two popular areas are Hang Gai Street and Hang Bong Street which stock embroidered tablecloths, greeting cards with traditional hand-painted silk covers, water puppets, clothing and antiques. In Ho Chi Minh City, Ben Thanh Market is a good place for shopping. (Vendors will willingly bargain but as a courtesy, do not ask the price of something unless you want to buy it.) Dong Khoi Street is an arts and crafts tourist bazaar.

Currency
The currency is the Vietnamese dong. The US dollar is widely accepted and several big cities accept Euro. Traveller’s cheques are easily exchangeable in banks and credit cards.

Climate
Vietnam has three climatic zones with temperatures ranging from 22°C to 27°C. In the north, the best time to visit is between October and March. Central Vietnam is protected by the Hai Van Pass Mountains and travelling is recommended year-round. In the south, there are two seasons—dry and rainy. March, April and May are the hottest months. Lightweight clothing is sufficient for the south all year round but warmer clothing is needed during winter (November through April) in the north and in the highlands.
Some of the most spectacular scenery in Vietnam is in the Tonkin region stretching from the Hoang Lien Son Mountains (Tonkinese Alps) eastward across the Red River Delta to the islands of Halong Bay. This area is home to many hilltribes, some of which have not been influenced by Vietnamese or Western life.

A favourite vacation spot for Hanoi locals is Sam Son beach, 16 kilometres south-east of Thanh Hoa. The Tam Dao Hill Station, founded by the French in 1907, consists of weathered grand colonial villas. Here there is superb scenery, refreshing weather and good hiking trails.

Hoa Lu was the capital of Vietnam under the Dinh Dynasty (968-980) and Pre-Le (980-1009). The ancient citadel covers an area of three square kilometres and the outer ramparts enclose temples, shrines and the place where the king conducted his court.

Two sanctuaries worth visiting are the temples of King Dinh Tien Hoang and King Le Dai Hanh. A short boat trip away is Bich Dong Grotto in the village of Van Lam, and the Tam Coc Caves and the Xuyen Thuy Grotto.

Close to the town city of Ninh Binh is the Cuc Phuong National Park, great for nature lovers. The Perfume Pagoda is one of several pagodas and Buddhist shrines built into limestone cliffs in the Huong Tich Mountain. A few hours drive from Hanoi is Halong Bay. With its 1969 islands rising from the waters of the Gulf of Tonkin, it is an awe-inspiring sight and an absolute must on any itinerary. Day or overnight boat trips are easily arranged and are the ideal way to take in the spectacular islands.

Hanoi

Hanoi is Vietnam’s capital as well as the political, economic, and cultural centre of the country. This beautiful, charming city was chosen as the capital by King Ly Thai To in 1010 and was renamed Thang Long (the Soaring Dragon) and Hanoi has been the capital ever since. Rich in ancient history, Hanoi preserves almost 600 pagodas, temples and many streets with centuries-old architecture busy with trade activities. The city also preserves its poetic features with rows of trees lining both sides of the streets, parks covering dozens of hectares and natural lakes.

Tourists can visit President Ho Chi Minh’s Mausoleum, Co Loa Citadel, the One Pillar Pagoda, the Temple of Literature (Van Mieu Quoc Tu Giam, the oldest university in Vietnam), Quan Su Pagoda - the official centre of Vietnamese Buddhism, Chua Thay, the Master’s Pagoda, Tay Phuong Pagoda, Lenin Thong Nhat and Thu Le Parks, the Hoan Kiem Lake and the West Lake.

Other attractions include Vietnam National Museum of History, the Vietnam Military History Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts and a suburban village, where visitors can acquaint themselves with the life of Vietnamese peasants. The Old Quarter of 36 ancient trading streets is a fascinating area to explore, with its bustling trade and tunnel houses. In some of the quiet streets off beautiful Hoan Kiem Lake are an increasing number of boutiques and gift/souvenir shops that combine local and modern styles, with delightful restaurants and cafés in historic shophouses.
CENTRAL VIETNAM

Da Nang is central Vietnam’s largest city and is home to some extremely picturesque sites including the Ngu Hanh Son (Five Element Marble Mountains) which lie close to the sea and have caves and pagodas, and Da Nang Beach which stretches for several kilometres between Monkey Mountain and Marble Mountain.

The city of Da Nang is surrounded by the three UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites of Hoi An, Hué and My Son.

Thirty-two kilometres south-east of Da Nang is the ancient town of Hoi An, an important international port from the 17th to 19th centuries and now Vietnam’s most popular destination beyond Hanoi and Saigon. Its combination of charming heritage streets and riverside setting, bustling markets, Chinese assembly halls, Japanese remnants, quaint restaurants and cafés, and local tailors and handicraft outlets, have made it a must-see for visitors to Vietnam. It is also a rapidly developing beach resort, with a huge stretch of beach just five kilometres from the town and many modern resorts.

Outside Hoi An is My Son Sanctuary, the capital of the kingdom of Champa from the 5th to 12th centuries. From here, there’s a great view of Champa from the Mountain Church (Nha Tho Nui) which is on top of Buu Chau Hill in the town of Tra Kieu.

Hué, located approximately a 2.5 hour drive north of Da Nang, is widely regarded as the most beautiful city in Vietnam. Hué is situated alongside a large, deep river adjacent to a mountain range. Traditionally Hué was one of the country’s cultural, religious and educational centres, and was also Vietnam’s capital from the years 1802 to 1945. The city of Hué is known worldwide as an architectural treasure with palaces, royal tombs and mausoleums, pagodas, and temples all framed by the natural landscape on either side of the Huong (Perfume) River. The ruins of its huge, moated citadel contains many interesting sites, such as the Nine Holy Cannons, the Imperial Enclosure, the Palace of Supreme Harmony and the Halls of the Mandarins, although the Emperor’s Getaway, the Purple Forbidden City, was largely destroyed during the wars. The Royal Tombs are 15 kilometres south of Hué. One of Vietnam’s best beaches, Thuan An is just 13 kilometres north-east of Hué, and from here visitors can take sampan trips up the Perfume River. From Hué, tourists can go by car to visit the Ho Chi Minh Trail and the remarkable tunnels of Vinh Moc, used during the wars.

The Hai Van Pass divides North and South Vietnam. A 21 kilometre-long road over Hai Van Pass, opened at the end of the 19th century, winds back and forth to a height of 435 metres above sea level. Its name means ‘Pass of the Ocean Clouds,’ since the peak of the mountain is in the clouds while its foot is close to the sea. Hai Van is considered to be the largest frontier post in Vietnam. From the top of the pass, one can admire Lang Co Beach to the north and Da Nang to the south. The curving railway through Hai Van Pass is 3200 metres long with sections running through seven tunnels. There are endless forests to the west of the pass and the ocean is to the east. Hai Van Pass is a real challenge for drivers, as well as for adventurers.

Dalat located in the Central Highlands region is renown for its relaxing, natural verdant environment. A popular tourist destination, it is probably one of Vietnam’s best-known vacation sites and is a popular honeymoon mecca. The many sites include Emperor Bao Dai’s Summer Palace and the colourful fresh food and flower markets. Picturesque crumbling French Villas from the 1930s dot the surrounding hillsides.

Nha Trang is on the south central coast of Vietnam and arguably boasts the best beach in the country. Its turquoise waters are perfect for swimming and boat trips are available to interesting offshore fishing villages and islands including Monkey Island with diving options also available.
HOTEL ROYAL HOI AN

On the banks of the Thu Bon River in the UNESCO World Heritage town of Hoi An, Hotel Royal Hoi An MGallery is a perfect blend of historical charm and luxurious modernity.

MGallery is a collection of memorable hotels, each of which owns a unique story and distinctive design. Combining the delicacy of Japanese touches and the luxury of Indochina architecture, Hotel Royal Hoi An is the first and only MGallery property in Hoi An, as well as a proud member of the elite collection in Vietnam.

Just a short stroll away from the ancient town of Hoi An, a World Heritage Site, Hotel Royal Hoi An is truly a perfect place to experience a refined luxurious sojourn. Hoi An is home to an abundance of marvels such as the Japanese Bridge, pristine An Bang Beach, Ancient Town, Tra Que Vegetables and Thanh Ha Pottery Villages. Be adventurous and partake in a Vespa tour, photography excursions or discover a world of rich local cuisines.

Hotel Royal Hoi An offers 119 luxurious rooms in five categories: deluxe, grand deluxe, royal deluxe, deluxe suite and presidential suite. Bedding options include king-sized and twin-sized beds. Suites ensure a luxurious experience that include separate living spaces, and a spacious balcony over looking the river.

Lush in-room amenities include complimentary Wi-Fi, individually controlled air-conditioning, free standing bathtub and separate rain shower, 24-hour room service, 42 inch LED cable television in-room safety box and walk-in closet. Featuring modern facilities ranging from meeting rooms and a stunning swimming pool, Hotel Royal Hoi An is the ideal get-away destination for romantic breaks, family vacations or inspiring events. A charming spa invites you to restore vigour and wellness with the best hands in Hoi An, state-of-the-art equipment and a tranquil atmosphere for the ultimate rejuvenation and relaxation.

Offering an open kitchen and a sumptuous breakfast buffet station, Faifo Café is the perfect place for true culinary gourmets. Whether you seek international or Vietnamese cuisine. Using the freshest ingredients, Wakaku delights the most discerning gourmets with top quality sushi and yakitori artistically prepared by talented chefs. Situated by the Art Nouveau-inspired swimming pool, River Bar is cozy by day and chic by night with flowing lounge sounds. Indulging in an intimate atmosphere, guests can be spoiled with specialty French colonial cocktails or traditional Vietnamese delights.

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ANANTARA HOI AN RESORT

Experience an idyllic blend of riverside relaxation and Anantara luxury, a UNESCO World Heritage Site at your doorstep and beautiful beach life just a short bicycle or boat ride away.

Scenically positioned on the banks of the Thu Bon River, Anantara Hoi An Resort is a charming boutique retreat in the historic port town and UNESCO World Heritage Site of Hoi An. Broadening the cultural appeal of the resort’s exotic destination, My Son UNESCO World Heritage Site is 47 kilometres away and the Imperial City of Hue is 130 kilometres away. Guests in search of sun kissed sands will be delighted with Cua Dai and An Bang beaches both just five kilometres away. They can be reached by bicycle or boat from the private jetty.

Accommodation showcases a blend of tropical Asian and French colonial styles complemented by a host of modern comforts to provide a luxurious home-away-from-home, rich with enchanting local inspiration. A distinctive and spacious split-level layout comprises an upper bedroom and bathroom with a lower lounge opening onto a porch overlooking a garden courtyard or the river. There are two comfortable daybeds that offer ideal spaces for relaxation.

Charming contemporary comforts and modern amenities include air-conditioning, a work desk with high speed internet connection, IDD telephone, in-room safety deposit box, mini bar, tea and coffee making facilities and satellite television.

Enjoy the delightful setting of this unique Hoi An luxury hotel matched by its culinary excellence. Start your day with a delicious breakfast buffet and in the evening, an à la carte menu showcases the very best of Vietnamese cuisine as well as seafood and steaks that are grilled to perfection.

Days can be spent in absolute relaxation, enjoy lazing by the pool or head to the spa for a tranquil sanctuary of pampering where you can enjoy a range of nourishing scrubs and wraps, heavenly massages and rejuvenating facials.

For the more actively inclined, enjoy cultural activities and unforgettable local tours that can be easily arranged. Delve into Vietnamese culture with language, lantern making and cookery classes. As one of the most sought after Hoi An hotels, the resort will serve as an excellent base from where the region’s culture and history can be experienced.
AVANI QUY NHON RESORT & SPA

This upscale hideaway on one of Vietnam’s most naturally beautiful shore offers all the right ingredients for relaxation with attention to the detail.

Arrive to find a postcard perfect shore, with a backdrop of orchard covered mountains. The resort’s kilometre long, palm fringed, private beach boasts some of Vietnam’s most pristine sands and clearest turquoise water. Accommodation is designed to relax, entertain and inspire. Each of the 63 guestrooms and suites boast a contemporary style brought to life by hints of Vietnamese culture and Champa Kingdom heritage. Private balconies reveal a spectacular sea view. Guests can sit at their balcony’s table and chairs to watch the waves, or rest inside on a cosy sofa chair enjoying international satellite channels on the large LED television.

Enjoy a tempting variety of tasty bites, delicious meals, refreshing drinks, tropical cocktails and premium wines. Offering imaginative creations that are freshly made you’ll find world flavours prepared by internationally trained chefs, along with the best Vietnamese cuisine should you fancy something local and exotic.

Indulge in an extensive spa treatment with nourishing and therapeutic benefits. The spirit of indulgence continues in the beauty treatment rooms with steam baths, Vichy showers and a Japanese dry sand and salt sauna that can be followed by healthy beverages on the spa deck overlooking the garden. A beachfront pavilion offers revitalising wellness activities, including daily complimentary sunrise yoga and afternoon Tai Chi.

In the tranquil surrounds of the resort, guests can play beach games, snorkel, kayak, fish and cruise the waves aboard a traditional Vietnamese basket boat. Bicycles available at the resort can be ridden to a nearby lake and orchard or a local fishing village. Vietnamese cooking classes, cocktail making sessions and an orchard tour introduce vibrant local elements and Vietnamese language lessons are free every day.

When it comes to exploring, Quy Nhon and the surrounding area offers a well rounded mix of culture, history, stunning scenery and local flavours. A freshwater lake in the nearby mountains is a great place to fish and a floating village restaurant dishes up superb seafood specialties.

A local handicraft village is renowned for its pottery, woodwork, blacksmiths and rice hats, while Quy Nhon City is home to ancient Cham temples and pagodas, a bustling market and a fascinating history museum.

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PREMIER VILLAGE DANANG RESORT MANAGED BY ACCORHOTELS

A memorable holiday experience awaits you at the Premier Village Danang Resort Managed by Accorhotels.

Situated close to the city centre of Danang and a short stroll from Hoi An, ancient town, guests are well located to enjoy the town’s attractions, activities and the extremely irresistible charm of Hoi An.

A popular choice for travellers, Danang has become one of Vietnam’s most exciting and vibrant cities. With a superb international airport, long stretches of pristine beach and a number of cultural sites within driving distance, it’s little wonder why the city has garnered so much interest, luxury and comfort.

This extensive property offers 111 beautifully appointed, modern villas available in Garden View, Ocean View, or Beachfront residences. Each villa has been designed with luxury and comfort in mind, offering spacious bedrooms, dining and living area, a fully equipped kitchen and private plunge pool surrounded by a secluded garden.

Enjoy a number of first-class facilities at the resort including a wellness spa, state-of-the-art fitness centre, an abundance of beach activities and bicycle hire. For parents who need a little private time, the Kid’s Club offers a fun-filled, safe environment for children. The resort also offers complimentary shuttle services into the city’s shopping district and the ancient town of Hoi An. If you feel like getting away and experiencing some of the region’s highlights, the resort can easily arrange trips to the Ba Na Hills, the Cham ruins at My Son, the Son Tra Peninsula or to either of the city’s spectacular golf courses.

Two exceptional restaurants include the Cá Chuồn Cồ restaurant with an extensive seafood menu and Lemongrass restaurant with a wide range of Asian and intercontinental specialties. All dishes are made with the freshest ingredients and are expertly crafted to bring you the very best in fine dining experiences.

If you wish to stay in, why not enjoy a sumptuous seafood barbecue right in the comfort of your own villa. The Nautica Beach Club commands panoramic views of the sea and is a fantastic way to unwind during the day or at night under a blanket of azure stars. There is a full drink list as well as a bar menu to choose from, perfect to settle the afternoon munchies.

Premier Village Danang Resort is managed by Accor, and as such, the quality of service and dedication of employees is unparalleled. Accor is Europe’s leading hospitality management group and is present in 92 countries with over 3,500 properties.
FURAMA RESORT DANANG

Only 15 minutes from Danang International Airport, this world class beachfront resort, famous for being a top culinary resort in Vietnam, is a sanctuary for respite and leisure, famed for its service, amenities and culinary offerings.

In a French colonial-style, blending charmingly with traditional Vietnamese architecture, 198 luxurious rooms, suites and 50 two to four-bedroom villas all have polished timber floors, comfortable cane furniture and plantation-style shutters. Each room has its own spacious balcony or terrace with superb views of the ocean, tropical gardens or the freshwater swimming lagoon. Each villa comes with a private pool, living and dining area, a chic bedroom and well-equipped kitchen.

Multi-level swimming pools overlook the beach while a huge lagoon swimming pool with a whirlpool and a children’s pool is set in lush landscaped gardens. There is also a fitness centre and spa, two kids’ clubs and a games room. The Montgomerie Links and the Danang Golf Club, the unique Greg Norman designed, are only a five-minute drive from the resort. A dive centre provides courses for all levels. Other activities include parasailing, jet-skiing, windsurfing, kayaking and snorkelling. Discover the three must-sees of Indochina, classified by UNESCO as World Cultural Heritage sites, Hoi An Ancient Town, My Son Holy Land and Hue, the ancient capital, as well as the Cham Museum, Marble Mountain and Linh Ung pagoda with the extremely impressive 67-metre Bodhisattra Kwan Yin statue. Some attractions can be combined in a helicopter tour from the resort’s own helipad for guests to enjoy the breathtaking views of Danang.

The resort features a mix of authentic Vietnamese and international cuisines. Enjoy Italian at Don Cipriani’s, Asian at Café Indochine or the renowned Wagyu, Kobe beef at the beachfront steak house, The Fan. The best Seafood Market Buffet and Afternoon Tea Buffet are daily and unique in Central Vietnam. The newly opened Spices of Asia is soon to become another popular dining spot. The Sommelier’s Wine Shop offers imported high-grade wines from around the world at special prices. Entertainment includes a traditional 16-string instrument performance, guitar soloist, live Filipino music band, Cham Dance Art and Vietnamese Folklore performances on the resort’s beach.

The Furama Resort ensures an enjoyable stay for all travellers with direct connections to Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Thailand, Singapore, Seoul, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Japan.

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Palm Garden Beach Resort & Spa - Hoi An

Set on five hectares of landscaped tropical garden with over 400 species of palm trees and plants running along a stretch of the famous Cua Dai Beach, Palm Garden Beach Resort & Spa offers a touch of Hoi An’s traditional architectural design combined with a taste of modern luxury.

The resort is only five minutes from the World Heritage site of the Hoi An Ancient Town and offers a complimentary shuttle scheduled four times daily to the ancient town. Hoi An is the ideal destination for visitors to explore an outstanding living museum of architecture, urban life and the cultures of the Cham, Chinese, French, Japanese and Vietnamese people. This five-star resort features 216 well-appointed rooms and bungalows. All rooms are equipped with modern facilities and have a private balcony/terrace that offers views to either the sea or the garden.

A variety of delicious dining options at Palm Garden caters to all tastes. The Terrace Restaurant is traditionally decorated and offers a choice of traditional Vietnamese and international cuisines, or head to Court Yard for a selection of themed dinners and entertainment. Colibri Beach Restaurant, with panoramic views of the sea, offers an array of barbecued delights and Italian specialities. Then head on over to Contino Club Bar that has an extensive list of drinks and colourful cocktails.

A variety of leisure activities and the resort’s qualified sport and recreation team will ensure an unforgettable holiday experience. The information desk will help organise the perfect tour and excursion program. Bicycles are available for hire, or enjoy a game of tennis, soccer or beach volleyball on the private beach.

Watersports include windsurfing, river and sea kayaking, jet-skiing and speed boating.

The Palm Spa, with highly trained professional therapists, allows you to receive revivisasing and relaxing treatments to achieve a high level of wellbeing.

The resort has been awarded the World Luxury Hotel Awards as the Luxury Family All-inclusive Resort 2013 & Luxury Beach Resort 2012 & 2014, the Green Hotel Standard 2010-2011 by ASEAN, Certificate of Excellence Award 2011-2016 by www.tripadvisor.com and The Excellent Performance by Vietnam Economic Times and The Guide Magazine nine consecutive years since 2006. The resort takes great pride in serving international events such as APEC Summit in 2006, ASEAN Summit in 2007, Miss Universe in 2008 and Miss Earth in November 2010.
Ho Chi Minh City, formerly known as Saigon, is Vietnam’s most dynamic city. With a population of 8.4 million, its streets are brimming with shops, stalls and busy vendors with their wares spread out on sidewalks.

Popular sights include the Doc Lap Palace, the War Remnants Museum and Notre Dame Cathedral, built in neo-Romanesque style. The central Ben Thanh Market is the best for souvenir bargains and delicious street foods.

You can also visit Giac Lam Pagoda, one of the oldest pagodas in the city, and the spectacular Chinese-style Emperor of Jade Pagoda.

The flat but lusciously green Mekong River Delta is the southernmost region of Vietnam and is an attractive patchwork of rice paddies, swamps and canals. The Cai Rang floating markets are the hub of the Mekong River Delta’s fishing and farming trades. These markets appear frantic but tourists should not be discouraged. Everything on sale usually hangs off the front of each boat, and bargaining is encouraged.

A sampan boat is the perfect way to watch the Mekong River come alive, and tourists can expect to find everything from fish to jack fruit. The riverbank is dotted with stilted, wooden houses that are built right on the water’s edge.

My Tho is a quiet city, a day trip from Saigon, with an interesting Central Market. Take a boat trip to explore local canals and nearby islands including Tan Long, where longan orchards are found. Further into the Delta lies the colourful town of Can Tho, the biggest city in the Mekong River Delta, with rice the most important industry. Can Tho has an array of delicious, local cuisine and photogenic floating markets nearby, and is close to the Cambodian border. Here you can also find the lively river city of Chau Doc, with beautiful sunset views from the top of Sam Mountain.

Off the far southwest coast of Vietnam Phu Quoc Island has beautiful white sandy beaches and a choice of resort-style hotels. It is famous for its black pepper and nuoc mam, or fish sauce, as well as its pearl factories. While it is not considered a prime nightlife destination, for peace, tranquility and relaxation, it is the perfect holiday spot.
INTERCONTINENTAL SAIGON

Conveniently located in the heart of Ho Chi Minh City’s bustling commercial centre, the InterContinental Saigon is situated close to attractions such as the Notre Dame Cathedral, the famous Saigon Post Office and Diamond Plaza.

This magnificent luxury hotel boasts 305 elegantly appointed rooms, including 18 suites and a stylish Presidential Suite. Each standard room features pillow-top bedding and floor-to-ceiling windows adding that extra touch of luxury. All rooms are equipped with high speed internet access, iPod docking station and work desk. The suites, located on the hotel’s upper floors, offer separate living rooms, access to the Club InterContinental lounge, Bose® entertainment system and iPod docking station. Designated on selected floors, the Deluxe Club InterContinental rooms offer complimentary daily breakfast, evening cocktails, high speed internet and personalised business services.

There is a myriad of dining options available to please the most discerning diner. For the authentic Cantonese and Peking cuisines, YuChu serves delicious dim sum and hot work dishes with artful preparation. Market 39 boasts seven, open interactive kitchens showcasing the sights, smells and sounds of creative international cuisine, including appetisers, with locally sourced and imported seafood. For a warm, welcoming and effortlessly genuine dining experience, Basilico is trattoria-style restaurant offering hearty home cooked-style meals.

Recreational facilities at the hotel include a round-the-clock fitness centre that houses a gym, a 20-metre outdoor pool and regular yoga classes. Rejuvenate and unwind at Spa InterContinental that embodies the true meaning of relaxation by providing healing spa services and rituals that honour local traditions and nurture the mind, body, heart and soul.

Those travelling on business have a wide range of meeting rooms to choose from as well as a dedicated business centre with specialised staff who will go above and beyond the call of duty to ensure your meeting is a success.

Located just 35-minutes from Tan Son Nhat International Airport, and close to landmarks such as the Reunification Palace, City Hall and the beautiful Opera House, the InterContinental Saigon is the ideal choice for your next visit in the ever-intoxicating Ho Chi Minh City.
SEA LINKS CITY

Nestled on the shores of Mui Ne bay, Sea Links City remains a hidden treasure.

Approximately 198 kilometres northeast of Ho Chi Minh City, Sea Links City is an extensive resort complex offering guests a truly unforgettable stay with the five-star Sea Links Beach Hotel, 338 Ocean Vista apartments, 315 beachside Sea Links Beach Villas, four palatial-sized pools, restaurants and bars, spa, extensive meeting facilities and an 18-hole world class golf course.

**Elegant accommodation**

Situated on a private hilltop with panoramic views, Sea Links Beach Hotel offers an incredible diversity of 188 elegant and spacious rooms overlooking the pool and ocean in eight impressive categories with large private balconies.

Immerse yourself in relaxation and spend lazy days at the swimming pool, sipping refreshing beverages at the beachfront bar or lounging on cozy daybeds. If you’re feeling active, there is plenty to do. An abundance of watersports await, or explore Mui Ne’s beautiful natural and cultural wonders with a wide range of land and sea excursions.

Perfectly blending comfort, convenience, sophistication and refinement, 315 Sea Links Villas harmoniously merge into the golf course and over 338 stunning ocean view apartments offer a fully equipped dining area for up to six people and a 32” LCD television with cable channels and full services, ideally suited for families or groups travelling together, and are also perfectly suited for long term guests.

**World class golf course**

Established in 2008 and designed by Ronald W. Fream, a worldwide renowned expert from Golfplan, Sea Links Golf & Country Club with the 18-hole golf course is sculpted from rolling hills and lives up to its reputation by offering a great test of ability and shot-making while staying playable for golfers of all skill levels. Featuring black tees stretching up to 7617 yards, 5 Tee - Par 72 and the signature Hole No. 7, probably the most scenic and picturesque in terms of design.

With all year-round seasons in the sun, and tropical breezes, Sea Links Golf & Country Club has been considered one of the best destinations for local and international golfers.

Additional facilities include three restaurants and eight meeting rooms that cater to all different types of M.I.C.E activities to make your occasion memorable. Come and enjoy an atmosphere of casual elegance, awake the senses with bold flavours and an extensive menu.
Along a marvellous stretch of white sand, in a premier location, this unique four-star beach resort located in Mui Ne, Phan Thiet offers a private and exclusive hideaway.

A contemporary, tropical retreat, The Sailing Bay Beach Resort, is one of the finest in the area, and features a European-style design in the shape of sail to capture the beachfront scenery entirely.

A range of accommodation options are scattered across tropical vegetation, ponds and along the endless beach boasting spacious private balconies affording stunning ocean views.

Room categories include Standard, Deluxe Garden View, Deluxe Ocean View, Premier Deluxe and Premier Suite.

All rooms are elegantly furnished, defined by native woods and tiles and decorated with ceramics, antique carvings and a bathroom, some with a jacuzzi. With a choice of either a king or twin beds, rooms are suitable for either single or double occupancy.

The Royal Restaurant offers a range of fabulous dishes from both Asian and Western cuisines which are well prepared by the international master chefs using the freshest ingredients. Windy Pool Bar offers guests a unique open-air experience with a modern vibe featuring freshly grilled fare for lunch and Asian-influenced cuisine for dinner right on Mui Ne beach.

With a backdrop of sunny skies, golden sands and a deep blue shore, the resort is the ideal venue to host significant outdoor events from theme parties, weddings, and conferences, The Sailing Bay is sure to impress.

Choose from a variety of spa services designed to reduce stress and enhance balance including massages, body scrubs and wraps, water treatments, skin care, nail care and hair care. The professional staff is trained to help you select appropriate services and provide impeccable personal service for a spa experience that exceeds all expectations.

The fitness centre provides modern facilities and exercise equipment for those who wish to keep active.

Only a few hours from Ho Chi Minh City, and 25 minutes from Phan Thiet City, Mui Ne beach is a glorious stretch of deserted beach and towering coconut palms. The water is free of rocks, which makes it perfect and safe for kite boarding and windsurfing. Mui Ne has the best conditions in all of Asia for watersports because it has Asia’s strongest and most consistent cross-onshore winds and the lowest rainfall in Vietnam.
LA VERANDA RESORT PHU QUOC

In a private spot on the island of Phu Quoc, discover the perfect tranquil beach escape.

On a wide stretch of untouched beachfront, embraced by lush, tranquil botanical gardens, La Veranda Resort Phu Quoc is ideal for peaceful getaways, honeymoons, spa indulgences or family holidays.

A member of the MGallery by Sofitel Collection, this island paradise is a French inspired colonial mansion. The prestigious MGallery by Sofitel meets the expectations of discerning clients and sets high standards in all aspects of hospitality including culture, design, gastronomy and wellbeing.

Intimate luxury
Beautifully designed, this luxury boutique beach resort features 70 rooms and villas for sublime comfort with modern amenities including cable TV, IDD telephone and wireless internet access. Greenery and tropical flowers surround the garden room accommodations and the beachfront suites offer stunning sea views of the turquoise waters of the Gulf of Thailand. All rooms are only a few steps to the beach or the beautiful cobalt blue pool.

The resort is equipped with state-of-the art meeting facilities and is ideal for intimate weddings. Activities such as private island tours that showcase the island’s hidden treasures, cooking classes, watersports, yoga by the sea and other health and wellness activities are also offered. Indulge at the island’s premiere boutique spa destination, a serene sanctuary for relaxation. Guests can enjoy therapeutic massages and beauty treatments that use exclusive natural, organic products.

Decadent dining experiences await with the on-site organic farm ensuring that the freshest ingredients are used in the delectable dishes. The Pepper Tree, the island’s acclaimed fine dining restaurant, boasts stunning views over the ocean and sunset and serves authentic French and Vietnamese cuisine.

Le Jardin, with an international menu, offers all-day dining. It is the perfect place for a family lunch or an afternoon snack on the open beach deck or in the garden. The barbecue buffet on the beach with sea-to-table fresh seafood affords a unique island culinary experience while Le Bar offers a wide range of beverages and features live entertainment.

La Veranda Resort Phu Quoc is a one-hour flight west of Ho Chi Minh City and is located just outside of Duong Dong, a short car ride from the airport. Direct flights are also available from the capital, Ha Noi and Can Tho. The resort is south by bus or car from Ho Chi Minh to Rach Gia with a boat connecting to the island.

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Located on the enchanting seashore of Long Beach, discover a hidden gem on Phu Quoc Island, a natural wonder of Vietnam famous for its soft-sand beaches, swaying palms and azure waters.

Located in the Gulf of Thailand, Phu Quoc is accessible via a 40-minute flight from Ho Chi Minh City. Here, surround yourself with modern amenities, relaxing spa treatments and outdoor dining venues while experiencing the impeccable care of personalized service.

The architectural layout, colours and textures used throughout the resort create an almost seamless transition between inside and out, all whilst surrounded by the elegance and simplicity of the island’s natural environment.

Ultimate relaxation and generous comforts await. A collection of 121 deluxe rooms, suites and villas offer the ultimate respite for travellers seeking exceptional luxury and attention to detail.

Deluxe Rooms feature natural designs and modern essentials, welcoming you to the panoramic views of the sea, garden and hills from a private, oversized balcony. Crafted to the highest quality standards and customised to the natural contours of Phu Quoc Island, gorgeous suites and villas offer comfortable bedroom and lounge areas, marbled bathrooms with spacious bathtubs and a balcony or terrace nestled in lush tropical gardens or overlooking the sparkling coastline.

Salinda Spa, Managed by Guru Spa Thailand, invites you on a journey of wellness rediscovery with distinctive traditional massages, Thai hospitality and well-trained therapists.

An outdoor infinity swimming pool, overlooking the royal blue waters of the ocean harmoniously integrates architectural details that blend seamlessly with the surrounding landscape. Enjoy refreshing beverages and snacks surrounded by palm trees at the Pool Bar while relaxing on a lounge chair.

Get local with authentic Vietnamese, spice up your night with traditional Indian cuisine at Salinda Restaurant or rediscover the pleasures of Italian cuisine in all its regional varieties. Devotion to the highest quality ingredients and the contemporary interpretation of traditional homemade recipes allows each flavour to shine through with elegant simplicity.

Sample a unique collection of signature cocktails and Salinda martinis accompanied by live music at Salinda Lounge.
Deevana Hotels & Resorts

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