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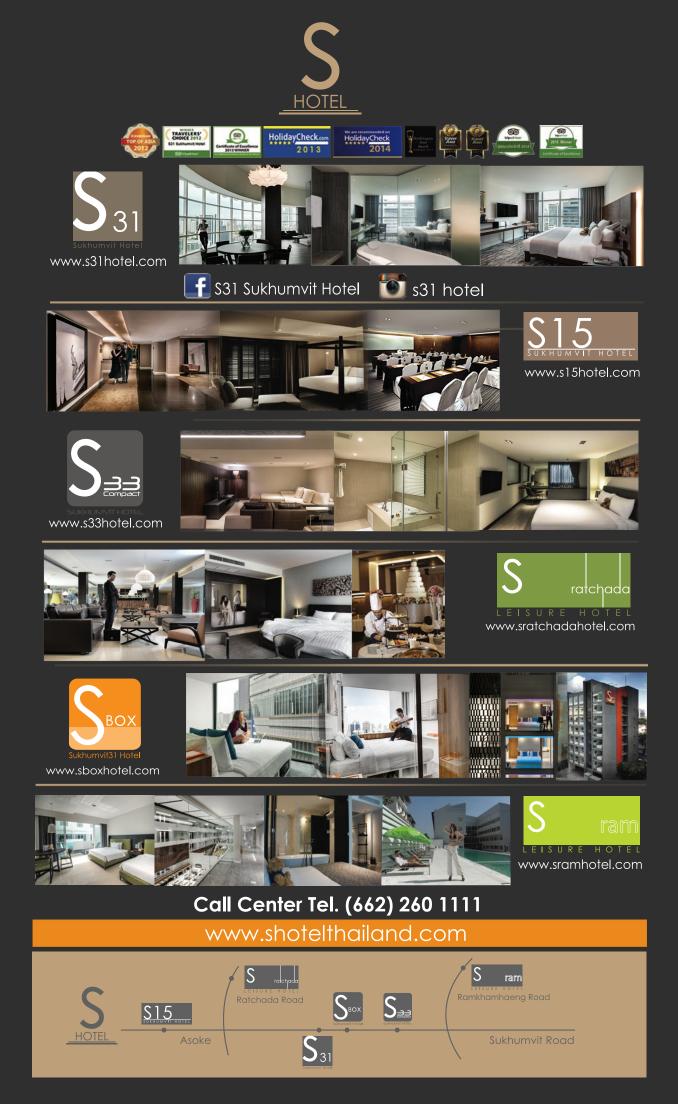
FROM THE EDITOR

The inevitability of change by the pandemic of Covid-19 has transformed the way of travelling. The plan of our future holidays, our travels, our escapes will not be the same. Be prepared and get the right information for your next trip.

Anyway, travelling the world is still in the most beautiful adrenaline – NOW Travel Asia magazine offers the bucket list that value for your next trip plan in both Asia and Europe. Be positive and the beautiful destinations are waiting for you. Cheers!

Kanapot Sitthiwong Editor-in-Chief

editor.nowtravelasia@gmail.com



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NEWS NOW Latest news & Updates for what's going on in Asia's travel industry.



THAILAND Romantic Islands Destination





ITALY Cinque Terre The Stunning Beauty of Liguria.





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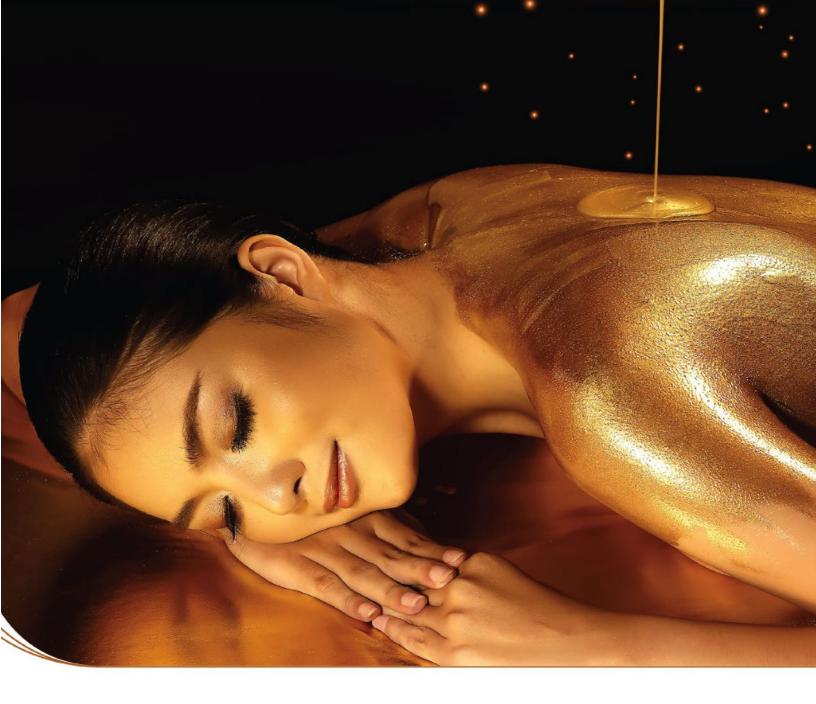
TURKEY Discover the Hidden Beauty of Eastern Turkey



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BY CHEF ALESSANDRO FRAU

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PANDEMIC CREATING CORONA-SOMNIAS

ACCOR'S TOP TIPS TO SLEEP WELL DESPITE PANDEMIC STRESSES

> Sleep is one of the most critical factors in overall health and wellness, but unfortunately, the Covid pandemic has had a negative effect on the world's slumber patterns. According to an Accor study of some of its most loyal guests, 44% say that Covid stress has negatively impacted their sleep. Keeping abreast of global updates about the pandemic, long lockdown periods, time spent staring at computer screens all day

(32%), being stuck at home (28%) and binge-watching (25%) are all significant factors creating a sleep deficit. Respondents listed bed comfort in a hotel as the second most important attribute in their overall stay satisfaction, just after cleanliness. To celebrate World Sleep Day, Accor's Wellness teams have come up with their top tips for everyone to get a better night's sleep, from calming apps to diet and exercise.

FOR THE ULTIMATE REST:

- Try to form habits around when you go to bed and wake up as this will help you regulate your body clock
- Turn off your devices at least 30 minutes before you turn in for the night as the blue light in screens tricks your body into wakefulness
- Eat a balanced diet and maintain regular exercise
- Limit your intake of tea, coffee & alcohol as these can all impact negatively on sleep - and watch out for caffeine in chocolate and energy drinks
- Invest in the best bed you can buy, and if you can't afford a new mattress, a mattress topper can provide extra comfort without breaking the bank
- Get some fresh air and sunlight every day as this promotes melatonin levels
- Try meditation or yoga to centre your mind
- Have a warm shower or bath before sleeping as this helps regulate your body temperature
- Reading a book before bed can help distract you from any worries

A hotel stay for one or two nights may assist you in getting a good night's sleep as it provides a chance to relax and rejuvenate in your private sanctuary, with all Accor's brands featuring programmes and products to promote healthy rest.

N N N N N



AN INSTANT IMPRESSION AS TWO INAUGURAL ISLAND RESORTS IN THAILAND RECEIVE RAVE REVIEWS FROM EXPERIENCE-SEEKING GUESTS

S Hotels & Resorts, the global hospitality company from Singha Estate PCL, is celebrating the successful launch of SAii Resorts in Thailand, after guests gave their seal of approval to this upper-upscale lifestyle brand's first two locations in the "Land of Smiles". Since their debuts on 1stFebruary 2021, SAii Laguna Phuket and SAii Phi Phi Island Village have both experienced strong demand, with March and April recording the highest forward bookings since the start of the global pandemic.

SAii derives from the phonetic sounds of the Thai words for "sand" and "pathway", and these two breath-taking beachfront resorts take experience-seeking guests on a sustainable travel journey in two of Thailand's most enticing island destinations. Targeted at "InSAiiders", the brand's unique term for its millennially-minded clientele, SAii strives to creates meaningful guest journeys, from "Hello" (a warm Thai welcome) to "Hub" (the social heart of the resort), "Sleep" (comforting rooms, suites and villas), "Play" (the resorts' activities), "Treat" (creative culinary offerings), "Live" (exceptional events) and "SAii For Now" (a heartfelt farewell).

Before they opened, both resorts underwent extensive renovations that brought to life a series of innovative F&B and wellness concepts. Mr. Tomyam focuses on Thai-inspired dishes with live kitchens and alfresco seating, while Miss Olive Oyl is a vibrant Mediterranean-style seafood grill and bar. Lèn Be Well promises a personalised approach to wellbeing, and the M.I.Y Aroma Lab lets guests mix their own organic bathroom amenities. With so many extraordinary elements and picturesque viewpoints at each resort, the opportunities for capturing Instafriendly moments and memories are almost endless!

The launch of Thailand's first two SAii resorts will kickstart an exciting era of expansion for S Hotels & Resorts, driven by the roll-out of SAii and its sister brand nabor ("neighbour"), an alternative collection of locally-inspired "luxurymidscale" hotels and resorts. The group currently operates 39 hotels and resorts on three continents, totalling more than 4,600 keys, but it is aiming to double this portfolio by 2025.

To learn more about S Hotels & Resorts, please visit www.shotelsresorts.com

MANDARIN ORIENTAL TO EXPAND CHINA FOOTPRINT WITH NEW LUXURY HOTEL IN HANGZHOU

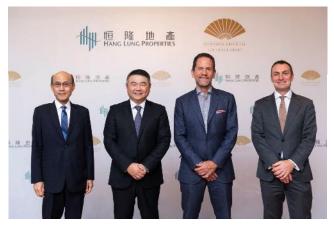
Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group has announced that it will manage a new luxury hotel in Hangzhou, China, scheduled to open in 2025.

Hangzhou is a leading centre of tourism, culture, science and education in the province of Zhejiang, and is undergoing significant expansion and rejuvenation.

Mandarin Oriental, Hangzhou will be part of the Westlake 66 mixed-use commercial and luxury retail complex owned and being developed by Hang Lung Properties. The development will be a leading attraction in the city, located close to the West Lake, an UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of China's primary leisure destinations, with easy access to the city's principal business hubs, Binjiang and Qianjiang.

The hotel will comprise 194 guestrooms and suites as well as four restaurants and bars. Significant meeting and event space will ensure it is well positioned for business and social gatherings.

Extensive spa and wellness facilities will provide a comprehensive range of wellness, beauty and massage treatments, featuring Mandarin Oriental's signature spa therapies. A well-equipped fitness centre and indoor swimming pool will also be featured.





SUMMER PROMOTIONS AT AURIGA WELLNESS

Capella Bangkok, the city's urban retreat on the banks of the Chao Phraya River, invites guests to experience a new level of wellness at Auriga Wellness. Immersed within a natural riverside sanctuary, this newly opened wellness center blends contemporary healing techniques with ancient Asian wisdom to help guests rebalance, relax and rejuvenate.





From the traditional Thai 'Tok Sen' massage to Shang Dynasty-inspired Harmonised Qi, guests can choose from a thoughtfully curated mix of relaxing massage rituals, nourishing body treatments and regenerative facials.

From now until 31 May 2021, celebrate Asia'a healing traditions complemented by the power of modern science with 111SKIN and its medispa innovations with our 'Summer promotions' – a range of pampering treatment packages for yourself or a loved one.

Prices are per person in Thai Baht and inclusive of tax and service charge

Whether you seek rebalancing, vitality or an aesthetic revival, your transformation will be holistic, with well-appointed treatment suites, a vitality pool, water therapy facilities and a relaxation lounge nestled in our verdant garden by the riverfront. For more information and reservations, please call 020983866 or email Auriga.Bangkok@capellahotels.com.

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THAILAND

PARAADJES ROMANTIC ISLAND DESTINATIONS

IT'S TIME TO START PLANNING

your next beach trip in a fabulous resort on less-known islands that promise the experiences of world-class island destinations.

KOH NANGYUAN

GETTING THERE

You have to travel to Samui before getting to Koh Nangyuan. From Samui's Lom Praya or Bangrak Pier, Koh Nangyuan is about 1 hour 45 minute away on speedboat.





NANGYUAN ISLAND

Koh Nangyuan has always been popular among beach lovers and divers, and it is arguably one of the top ten island paradises in the world! During low tide, the white sand beach connects the 3 islands of Nangyuan together, creating 3 beautiful private bays and the perfect snorkeling spot. Watch schools of fish swim through crystal clear water above beautiful coral reef and observe colourful clownfish playfully swim in and out of the anemone.



If you prefer the view from above, climb up the highest peak of Koh Nangyuan for an amazing 360-degree view of the Gulf of Thailand. Make sure you plan your day trip well because Koh Nangyuan opens daily from 9.00 – 16.00.





HOTEL RECOMMENDED! NANGYUAN ISLAND DIVE RESORT

TEL. 088 500 0677 WEBSITE: www.kohkradadresorts.com

KRADAT ISLAND

Most tourists would head to Koh Chang, Koh Kood, or Koh Mak when traveling to the eastern sea of Thailand. Although those three famous islands are proven to be famous tourist destinations, the nearby island of Koh Kradat is making its way into the local's favourite. From the sky, the island looks like a piece of paper floating in the sparkling sea.

The fairly flat landscape of Koh Kradat means spectacular sunrise and sunset sceneries, and you will be wonderfully surprised by large flocks of deer waiting to greet you!

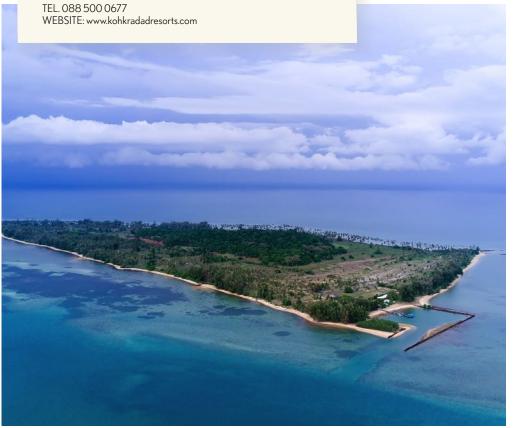


KOH KRADAD RESORT



HOW TO GO

Catch local longtail boat from Laem Ngop to Koh Mak (approximately 1 hour), then you have to contact the resort for a private pick-up to Koh Kradat (another 10 minutes ride).





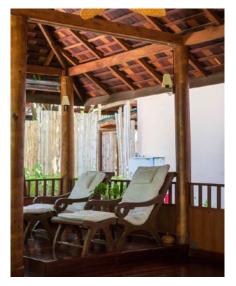
















Koh Madsum's unique thin and long shape means you could literally walk from the eastern ashore to the western shore in minutes. Visitors come here not just to enjoy the pristine beach, snorkeling, and the magical sea, but meet the famous local celebrities, the friendly and photogenic pigs, that live freely on the island as well.



Koh Matsum is the destination to really relax and enjoy the nature and the company.

GETTING THERE

From Samui, take a 30-minute boat ride from Thong Krut Pier to Koh Matsum.

HOTEL RECOMMENDED! the treasure koh madsum

TEL. 077 953 009 WEBSITE: www.treasurekohmadsum.com







Located in the naturally rich district of Takua Pa, Koh Kho Khao's tranquil atmosphere is perfect for travelers looking for a private getaway. Enjoy the slow-life by the beach and explore the hike around the island that promises rare discoveries like mini lotus, Tropical pitcher plants, and various species of ferns, and end your fun day with a romantic sunset dinner.

GETTING THERE

Twenty minutes boat rides will take you from Ban Pak Koh Pier, Phang Nga, to Koh Kho Khao.

HOTEL RECOMMENDED!

ATAMAN LUXURY VILLAS

TEL. 093 690 5462 WEBSITE: www.ataman-resort.com



Koh Kradan is another jewel of the Andaman you have to experience once in a life. The island is a peaceful sanctuary where soft powdery beach kisses the romantic turquoise water. Go for a fun snorkeling and let the magic of the underwater world erase all your stress away. Explore the corals reef- see beautiful sea fans and find different varieties of lives on the reef.

HOTEL ON UNE UD EE

HOTEL RECOMMENDED! seven seas resort koh kradan

TEL. 082 490 2442 WEBSITE: www.sevenseasresorts.com



Make your way to Trang and head to Khuan-Tung Ku Pier. Hire local longtail boat to take you to Koh Kradan. The trip from Trang Airport to the pier and the boat ride take around 45 minutes each.





YAO NOI ISLAND

Kho Yao Noi is the perfect reflection of the magic of Andaman Sea. Spectacular sceneries, clear water, and pristine beach await lucky visitors who crave peaceful environment to relax and recharge. The island is also the choice for many couples of their honeymoon. Besides relaxing activities, "Koh Yao Noi Ecotourism Club" offers the true local homestay experience. Eat like the locals and explore the local ways of life. Learn about batik making, lobster farming, and fishing, and see how the sea nourishes lives on the island.



GETTING THERE

Koh Yao Noi can be reached by a public boat ride from Ban Rong Pier, Phuket, or book a private speedboat to the resorts at Yacht Heaven Pier. Travel time is about 1 hour.



HOTEL RECOMMENDED!

TREEHOUSE VILLAS

TEL. 076 584 460 WEBSITE: www.treehouse-villas.com





IT DOES NOT MATTER HOW WELL-TRAVELED YOU ARE

ITALY

1 11

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it is still hard to find a more popular attraction in Italy than Cinque Terre. Literally translates to 'five lands', Cinque Terre consists of 5 unique villages along the shore of Liguria (Riviera), and together they attract an endless stream of visitor all year round.



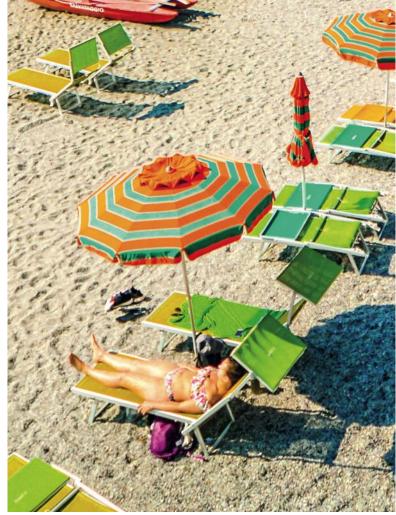
HOW TO GO

Catch a train from Milano Centrale, Milan, to La Spezia Centrale, and continue on the Cinque Terre regional route. The train travels through all 5 villages, and makes a 3 - 10 minutes stop at each village. A day pass train ticket is highly recommended (buy at Cinque Terre Point ticket booth at La Spezia Centrale) as you can freely hop between the villages.

MONTEROSSO AL MARE

Monterosso al Mare is the largest village out of all 5. It also boasts the widest and longest beach in the region. If you love the sea, sand and sun, you will find yourself in a paradise with lots of fun activities, restaurants, resorts, and entertainment here. Monterosso al Mare is also known for its original anchovies that is widely used in Italian and Mediterranean cuisines across the continent.





VERNAZZA

As the "Queen of Cinque Terre," Vernazza is considered to be the most romantic place in Cinque Terre. Sweet vibe of Vernazza bring lover souls closer together over the spectacular view of the natural marina and colourful centuries old houses, as well as the popular Santa Margherita di Antiochia Church. The town is virtually traffic-free, and remains one of the most authentic fishing villages on the Italian Riviera. The small village of Riomaggiore is the second largest sister of Cinque Terre and the first stop from La Spezia. This seaside paradise is the beginning of Via dell'Amore hiking route that connects all 5 villages.



Riomaggiore also offers an exciting diving tour if you love to explore the beautiful Mediterra nean Sea first.









CORNIGLIA

Corniglia may be the baby sister of Cinque Terre, and the only village that is not adjacent to the sea, but its hilltop location in between the other 4 sisters boasts spectacular scenery of its other siblings and the panoramic views of La Spezia.

MANAROLA

Manarola featured in countless postcards and magazines. With the main road cutting through the town center and surrounded by fascinating pastel-colour buildings, Manarola is frequently referred to the introvert little sister of Cinque Terre who loves simplicity and tranquility.



IF YOU HAVE TO NAME A FEW CITIES IN CHINA

you would more likely be thinking of Beijing, Shanghai, or even Hong Kong. China stretches far from east to west and there are hidden treasures beside the familiar names. Dunhuang fits the profile as the unseen treasure of China, and we love to take you on a journey to explore the natural and historic beauty of this fascinating ancient desert city.

CHINA

THE ANCIENT CITY OF

DUNHUANG RIOMAGGIORE



Located in the northwest of Gansu province, Dunhuang has a long history that dated back thousands of years. The ancient city was an important stop along the famous silk road, making it the crossroad between eastern and western cultures.

The UNESCO World Heritage city also boasts magical natural wonders like dazzling sand dunes, crescent lake, and Mogao caves, as well as the largest and well-preserved collection of Buddhist artifacts.

MINGSHASHAN AND CRESCENT LAKE

Turn on the magic of Gobi Desert and be amazed by the ever changing sea of sand. The sleepless sand dunes of MingSha Shan sit just 6 kilometers away from the city and can be explored in many ways, including walking and camel riding! A camel ride gives you a taste of how people travel along silk road before cars and trains were invented, and a ride along the sand dunes will cost you around 100 Yuan. For a more extreme experience, a sand buggy and glider will give you a different view of the desert, plus a little adrenalin rush. Sand sliding is also a popular fun activ-ity and a great way to enjoy the sand.

The main attraction of MingSha Shan is the enchanting Crescent Lake in the middle of the vast desert that raise your curiosity how this beautiful lake exists among this desert land, and with the sand dunes continuously shifting, it is also a mystery how the lake survives being swallowed by the sand. However, the growing demand for water in the area is sucking the groundwater dried.

As the result, Crescent Lake is merely a meter deep, compared to 5-meter depth half a century ago. The future of the lake is uncertain, but today it is still nourishing lives around the lake and bring tourists to MingSha Shan. The Han Chinese temple by the lake offers a quiet place to rest and enjoy the lake.

Address:

Dunhuang, Jiuquan, China **Opening Hours:** Daily 8.00 – 17.00 **Ticket:**

(May - October) 120 Yuan / (November - April) 80 Yuan for 3-days, unlimited entry to MingSha Shan and Crescent Lake.

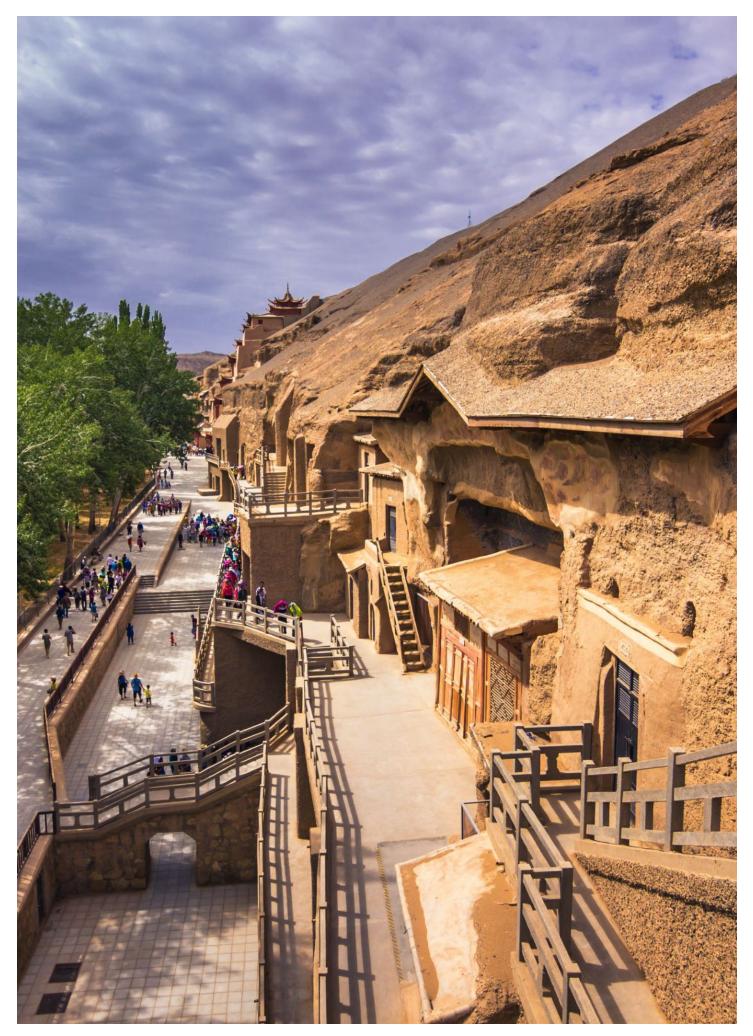




KEEP IN MIND

Dunhuang is a desert region, which means extreme temperature range. Be prepared for extreme heat during the day and freezing night, as well as sudden sandstorm. Bring a hat, sun block, scarf, and sunglasses with you during the trip. The best times to travel is between May to October when the temperature is less extreme.









MOGAO CAVE

Mogao Cave, or locally called Qian Fo, is one of the greatest Buddhist heritage in the world. Perched on MingSha mountain overlooking the sand dunes in Gobi Desert, Mogao Cave was honoured as UNESCO's World Heritage site in 1987 for its cultural importance. The 1,600 meters deep cave took centuries to complete (4th – 14th century) and houses over 45,000 square meters of religious murals. Most murals date back to Tang dynasty and depict good vs evil and eternal bliss in the heaven.

Besides the murals, Mogao Cave also houses 5 wooden architectures from Tang and Song dynasties, as well as thousands of manuscripts, books, and sculptures. The cave was dubbed as "Library Cave" for its religious and cultural importance that reflect the role of Dunhuang on the ancient silk road. The city was not just a rest stop to cross-continental travelers and merchants, but also a cultural melting pot between Chi-nese, Indian, Greek, and Arabian. Although there are many caves waiting to be explored, only a few are opened to public with strict "no photo" and "no light" rule to preserve the relics as much as they can.

Address:

Opening Hours:

Dunhuang, Jiuquan, Gansu, China

(May - Oct) everyday 8.00 - 18.00 / (Dec - Apr) everyday 8.00 - 18.00 RECOMMENDED HOTEL SILK ROAD DUNHUANG HOTEL

Silk Road Dunhuang Hotel offers a luxurious stay in the perfect location to explore the landmarks. The ho-tel's old city wall exterior may give you the impression of an ancient fort, but the interior is truly a palace with charming unique nomadic touch. The room also has a direct oversea call if you need to call home.

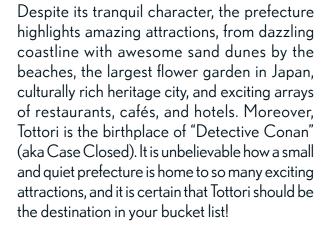
Address: Dunyuet Road, Dunhuang, China



The Hidden Charms of Tottori, Japan

Discover new experience and reimagine Japan from a different point of view at Tottori. Located on the southwestern coast of Japan, Tottori is a part of Chugoku, a large region surrounded by the sea. With the lowest population in the country and cool temperature all year round, Tottori offers a quiet lifestyle amidst beautiful natural landscape.







JAPAN



Getting there

Fly to Narita International Airport and fly domestically to Yonago Kitaro Airport, Tottori. The domestic flight takesabout1hour30minutes.

> THE HERITAGE TOWN OF KURAYOSHI THE TREASURE OF JAPAN

The charming town of Kurayoshi lies in central Tottori and it holds centuries of history of the region. The town's famous White Wall District retain the ambience of their origins in Edo and Meiji periods. The area has been designated as one of the most important traditional architectures preservation districts in Japan and the cultural treasure of the world. Traditional buildings used as breweries and distilleries are now respectfully turned into shops, cafés, and gallesries. Take your time strolling slowly through the peaceful streets and make sure you stop by Oohirasan Konpira-in temple for a one-of-a-kind lucky charm!

Address: Kurayoshi, Tottori, Japan





TOTTORI SAND DUNES



Arguably the most popular attraction of Tottori, Tottori Sand Dunes let you explore the soft sand dunes on a camel back along the coastline. Near the dunes is The Sand Museum, the only museum in the world that exhibits sand sculptures and arts, and Sakyu Kaikan where you can get a souvenir to remember Tottori Sand Dunes by.





Address:

Tottori Sand Dunes, 2164-661 Fukubecho Yuyama, Tottori, Tottori Prefecture 689-0105, Japan

Tel: 085 722 3318 Opening Hours:

Everyday 9.30 - 16.30 (Mar - Nov) / 10.00 - 16.00 (Dec - Feb) Admission Fee:

Free / Camel ride is 1,300 Yen for 1 person and 2,500 Yen for 2 persons



Don't Miss!

Only a few knew about Tottori's reputation as the best place in Japan to observe the night sky. Be dazzled by millions of stars above the quiet sand dunes and let yourself be a part of the universe!

MISASA ONSEN BOOST YOUR WELLNESS



There are always big surprises hidden in small towns. Misasa is only a small town on the map of Tottori, but it is a well-known Ryokan style (a small traditional Japanese inn) resort town. An onsen bath is a great way to unwind from all the travel and the stresses of everyday life. Misasa onsen also has boosting effects on immune system and it is believed to have anti-aging properties as well. For a more authentic Japanese experience, staying in Ryokan and trying kaiseki dinner (traditional multicourse Japanese dinner) are highly recommended.

Address:

Misasa, Tohaku District, Tottori 682-0123, Japan **Tel:** +81 858 43 0711 **Opening Hours:** Everyday 14.00 - 9.30

VISIT HOKUEI









If you are a Japanese manga fan. Hokuei will be like a dream comes true! Visit Gosho Aoyama Manga Factory and dig deeper into your favourite characters from "Detective Conan" cartoon series. Learn about Gosho Aoyama, the man who brought Conan to life, from his childhood to the present day. You will get to see the original drafts, character models, CD set, and the model of Gosho's office There will be different characters from the series waiting to greet you in each museum zone, and you will be able to get in the shoes of Conan and solve a murder mystery! Do not forget to buy authentic Conan merchandises on your way out!

Address:

1414 Yurashuku, Hokuei-chō, Tōhaku-gun, Tottoriken 689-2221, Japan **Tel:** +81 858 37 5389 **Opening Hours:** Everyday 9.30 o 17.30 **Admission Fee:** Adults 700 Yen / High school students 500 Yen / Primary school students 300 Yen



UR ADOME COAST THE MAGICAL COAST



Uradome Coast is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful coasts in Japan. It is an important part of the Sanin Kaigan National Park and famous for distinctive and unusual natural sea walls, cliffs, tunnels, caves, and large rocks formed naturally by erosion. Visitors also love the crystal-clear water with superb visibility for all fun activities like diving, snorkeling, and kayaking, to cruising.

Address:

Uradome, Iwami, Iwami District, Tottori Prefecture 681-0003, Japan **Opening Hours:** (Guided cruise operation time) Everyday 9.00 - 16.00







360 FRAGRANCE OF TOTTORI

Stretching over 120 acres near Yonago, Tottori Hanakairo Flower Park is the largest flower park in the country. Different types of flower take turn to bloom throughout the year, including 15 types of lilies grown naturally in the wild here. The lilies are also the symbol of Tottori Hanakairo Flower Park and the main attractions of the park! As night falls, the park turns into the "Moonlight Flower Garden" with different shades of lights filling the whole area with romance.

Address:

110 Tsuruda, Nanbu-chō, Saihaku-gun, Tottoriken 683-0217, Japan **Tel**: +81 859 48 3030 **Opening Hours:** Wed – Mon (closed on Wednesday) 9.00 – 16.30 (Feb - Mar) / 9.00 – 17.00 (Apr - Nov) / 13.00 – 21.00 (Dec - Jan) **Admission Fee:** (Apr - Nov) 1.000 Yen / (Dec - Mar) 700 Yen



Oenoki-an made a name for Tottori when they started serving the 2 famous menus -"Pink curry" and "Black curry". The curries have become the staple menus of the province for a good reason. They are just delicious, but they are photogenic as well! It is hard to resist taking a photo and posting the "kawaii-ness" of the pink curry! Besides the stapler menus, Oenoki-an also serves great seafood dishes.

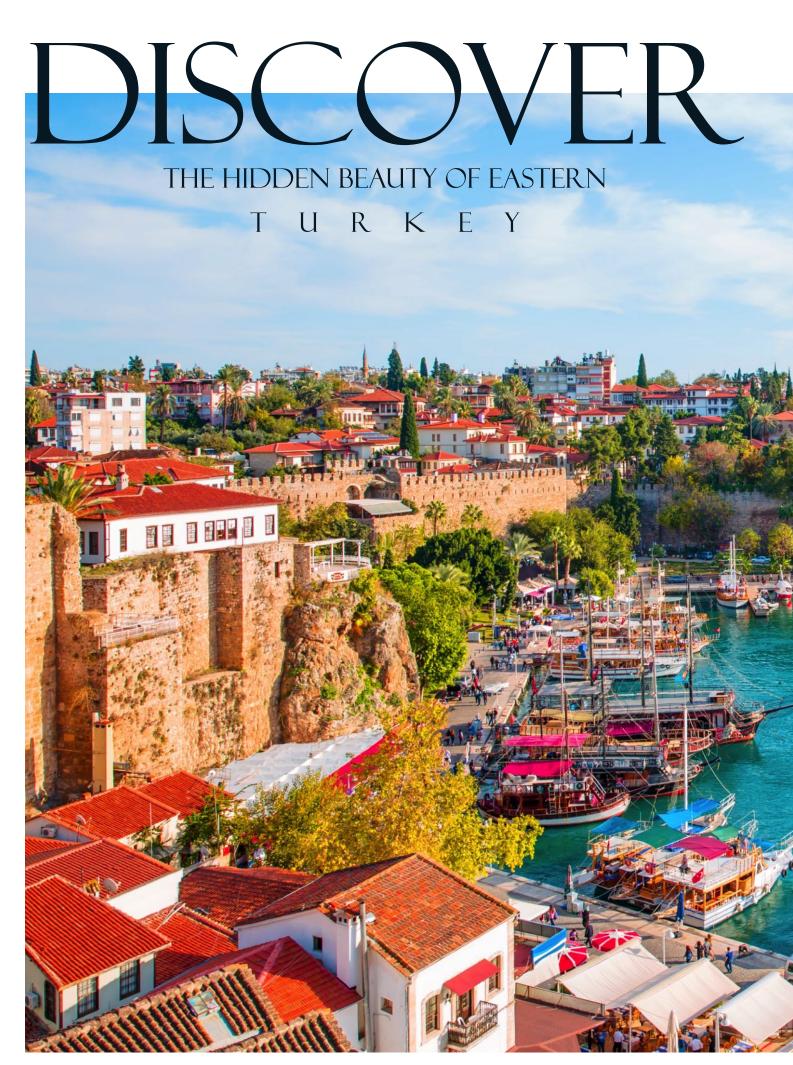
Address:

3-3 Oenokicho, Tottori, 680-0043, Japan Tel: +81 857 30 4891 Opening Hours: Everyday 11.30 - 21.00 Website: www.allure-ba.com/oenoki



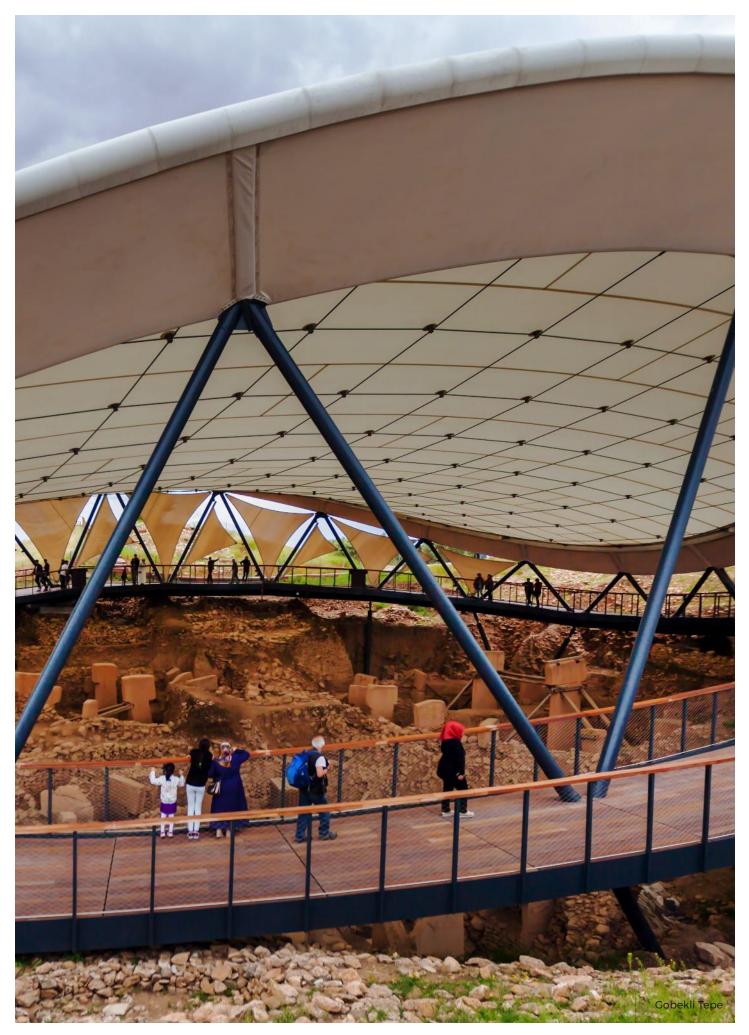
Tip!

The secret of pink curry is beetroot and mash potato! The sauce is well-known among the locals, and it usually accompanies squid dishes. On the other hand, black curry is made from squid ink. Now you can enjoy the colourful dishes with a peace of mind!



TURKEY

"Turkey" is the crossroad between 2 great continents. Tales of the great empire still linger in the air, and it is proven that Turkey is one of the beating hearts of Islamic world. Fascinating landmarks such as Sultan Ahmed Mosque (Blue Mosque), Hagia Sophia, and Cappadocia are just a few reasons why you should not miss Turkey. There are more hidden treasures to the west of the country waiting for you to discover Turkey in an unimaginable way.





GOBEKLI TEPE

Originally called Lycia, Antalya is a historically rich resort town on the Mediterranean. Built by the Greeks in 200 BC, Antalya has plenty to learn and see how civilized this region was thousands of years ago, and with spectacular location and breath-taking landscape and sea sceneries, now you can experience Antalya while enjoying a luxurious stay. The magic of this "Riviera of Turkey" is truly undeniable.





MOUNT NEMRUT

Walk the history of the ancient empire and explore the tomb of the great king. Mount Nemrut sits on an altitude of 2,150 meters above sea level and it was used as an ancient ceremonial ground and royal tomb. The entrance to the site and the exit are guarded by statues of ancient gods which were damaged by major earthquakes throughout the history. The scattered statue pieces and the ancient ruins is a great reminder to us that nothing truly lasts.

ANTALYA

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Turkey has a vast and beautifully diverse landscape and natural wonders. A western Turkey town of Pamukkale highlights spectacular natural reaction between mineralrich waters, heat, and limestone, resulting in light blue water flowing down white travertine. The whole area seems like a magical tale - that's why Pamukkale literally translates to "cotton castle".

TIP

Visitors have to catch a bus from South Gate, Hierapolis, to Pamukkale (40 Lira or 211 Baht).











Among all the historically significant cities and sites in Turkey, Ephesus is arguably the most historically valuable relative to our time. Built around 1000 BC and later became the capital of eastern Roman Empire, this was one of the most prosperous cities in the Mediterranean. The record shows that Ephesus was the "biggest primate city in Asia". Many ancient structures are being restored today to preserve the rich history of this great city!



THAILAND



SATURAL HERITAGE OF

ANDAMAN

Return to the basic of life and be a part of the forgiving nature in Satun. Thisa unpolished jewel of the Andaman is a sanctuary for travelers craving a peaceful getaway amidst untamed nature. You may have heard of Koh Lipe, but Satun is much more than just a beach paradise as its extraordinary landscape is registered as UNESCO Global Geopark.

GETTING THERE

Fly from Bangkok to Hatyai or Trang. Satun is a 1 hour 30 minute drive from Hatyai/Trang. If you want to continue to the islands, Pak Bara Pier will be the start of your next adventure.



Had San Lang Mangkorn or the Dragon Backbone Shoal was formed naturally by millions of seashell deposit. The shoal stretches 4 kilometers with gentle twists and turns, forming a dragon-shape sand ridge that connects Koh Huamun and Koh Sam and allows visitors to walk along the dragon back during low tide.



LE STEGODON CAVE

Le Stegodon Cave is no9t only the longest cave in Thailand, but an important archeological site where ancient fossils of Le Stegodon (Prehistoric elephant) and seaweed were discovered. The adventurous limestone cave is reachable by kayaking, and the higher the tide, the more exciting it will be as you have to dug down or lay flat on the kayak to avoid bumping your head on the ceiling. The journey, though, is truly amazing!

Addressd: Moo 7 Kiriwong Village, Tungwha, Satun



PHUPHA PHET CAVE



Le Stegodon Cave is not the only worldfamous cave in Satun. Ranked 4th for the world's largest caves, Phupha Phet Cave covers over 20 acres of cave space. High ceiling halls with amazing stalactites and stalagmites that took millions of years to form. Evidences of prehistoric humans are found scattered across 20 halls, which are now lit to help visitors navigate through. The rooms are named according to their geological characters like Marn Phet (Diamond curtain hall) and Phraya Nak (Serpent hall), and the most popular hall of all is the Lan Sang Morakot where the large hall is brightly lit by natural beams of sunlight at 3 PM every day.

Addressd: Baan Pa Pon, Palm Pattana, Manang,

Satun



TARUTAO NATIONAL MARINE PARK

Located near Straits of Malacca in the Indian Ocean and named UNESCO ASEAN Heritage Park and Reserve in 1982, Tarutao National Marine Park protects 1490 km2 of ocean, covering 51 captivating islands, including Koh Tarutao (the former prison island), Koh Adang - Ra Wi (diver paradise), and the highly regarded Koh Lipe - Maldives of Thailand. Each island has its own surprises, from waterfall and secret unspoiled beach to turtle nest and diverse land and marine lives.

Address: Tarutao National Marine Park, Pak Nam, La Ngu, Satun



TIP!

"Tarutao" was derived from Malay word "Talo Tera" which means "many islands". In 1936, Koh Tarutao was used as a prison and correction island. During World War II, the prison was neglected, causing huge shortage of supply which turned prison offices to work with prisoners as pirates. Tarutao pirates ruled the water for years before they were caught, and the prison was abandoned 'til this day.

KOH ADANG

Alluring underwater world awaits at Koh Adang. Bountiful coral reef does not just provide a haven for colourful fishes and marine animals like sea fan and giant clams, but set the perfect spot for a memorable dive every time. Koh Adang also boasts panoramic views of the Andaman Sea from Pha Cha-do Viewpoint where pirates used to spot incoming trading ships.

Park, Pak Nam, La

Tarutao National Marine



KOH HIN NGAM



This small island in Tarutao archipelago has a distinct beach unlike others you see around Thailand. Instead of white sand, black round rocks make up the unique beach of Koh Hin Ngam. The smooth black rocks surprisingly sparkle every time the wave hits the beach. Although the beach may not be suitable for the usual activities, but the scenery of sparkling rocks against turquoise sea, plus rich marine surroundings, are enough to mark Koh Hin Ngam on your next destination map.

Address: Adang - Ra Wi Islands, Tarutao National Marine Park, Pak Nam, La Ngu, Satun



KOH LIPE

Located just south of Koh Adang, Koh Lipe is the crown jewel of Tarutao and the "Maldives of Thailand". It is the most popular destination in Satun and a paradise for sea lovers. Koh Lipe 3 beaches on the island, Pattaya Beach, Sunrise Beach and Sunset Beach – each with its own character for you to choose.



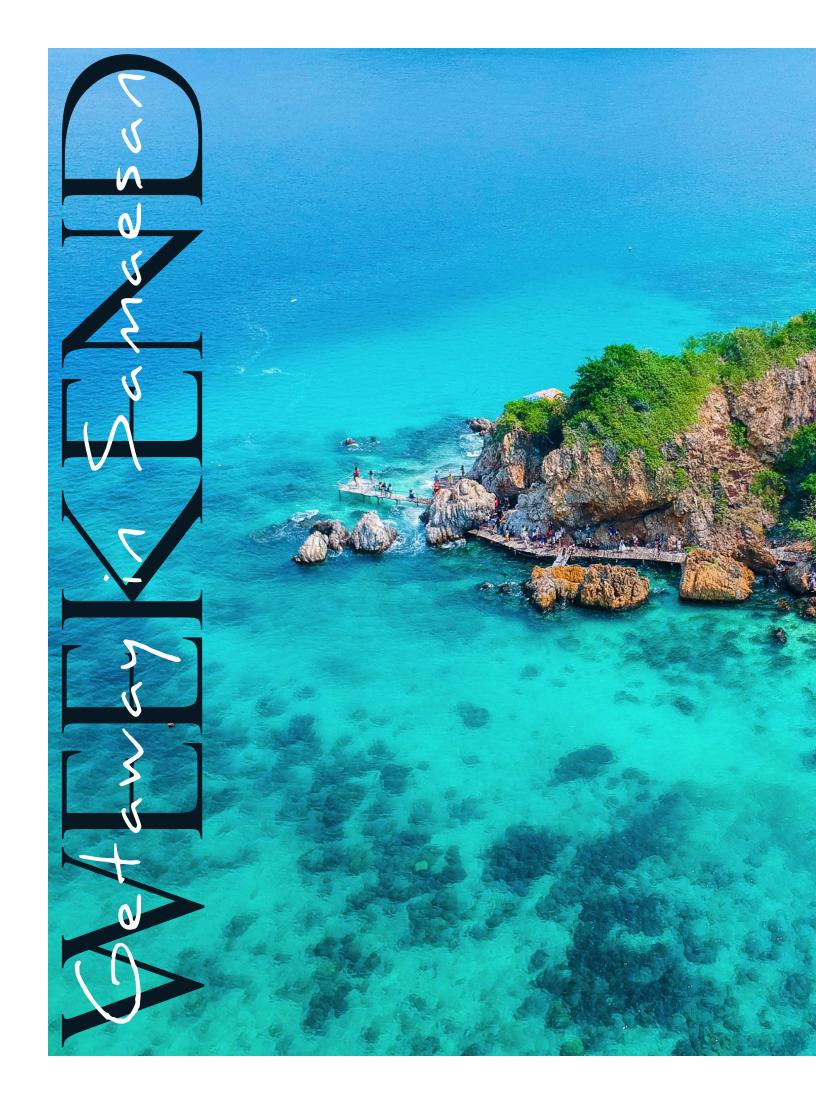
It's not hard to guess that Pattaya Beach is where you would find restaurants, diving tours, and shops, while Sunrise Beach offers a peaceful haven for snorkeling and hanging out on the beach. Last but not least, Sunset Beach is perfect for a leisure stroll with romantic sunset backdrop.





DON'T MISS!

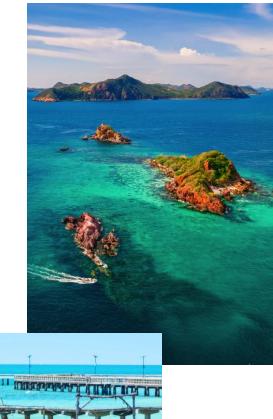
Wedge clam (locally called Hoi Tai Pao) is a local delicacy found only around Ban Bor Chet Luk, La Ngu, and some areas in Trung, The clam looks similar to a ship sail, and hence the name Hoi Tai Pao (Brig clam). Wedge clam has a lot of meat and taste sweet naturally - great for popular menus like Stirred fried clam with basil, and Wedge clam pad cha!





Escape from the chaotic world and allow yourself to unwind by the sea at Samaesan. Located in Chonburi in the Thai navy owned land, "Samaesan Bay" offers a fun weekend getaway just 2 hours from Bangkok. Nine bountiful islands, Koh Chuang, Koh Rong Khon, Koh Rong Nung, Koh Yung Kluea, Koh San Cha-lam, Koh Chan, Koh Rad, Koh Kham, and Koh Samaesan, dotted the bay, but only Koh Samaesan and Koh Kham are open to the public as the rest are reserved for turtle nesting. Being protected by the state, land and marine lives flourish around Samaesan Bay, making it one of the best diving spots to see the diversity of marine lives, from staghorn coral and sea fan to manta ray, clown fish, and parrot fish.





HAT THIA

Hat Thian is the natural reception for Koh Samaesan visitors. The white sand beach stretches 500 meters along the east coast of the island with no sharp rocks obstructing your beach activities. This is a great place to hang out and relax by the beach.

Getting there

Travelers can buy a ticket to Koh Samaesan and Koh Kham at Thai Island and Sea Natural History Museum (Adults 300 Baht / Children 220 Baht). For more information and advance booking, visit www.tis-museum. org or call 038 432 471 (Koh Samaesan)/www.kohkham.com or call 033 124 848 (Koh Kham)



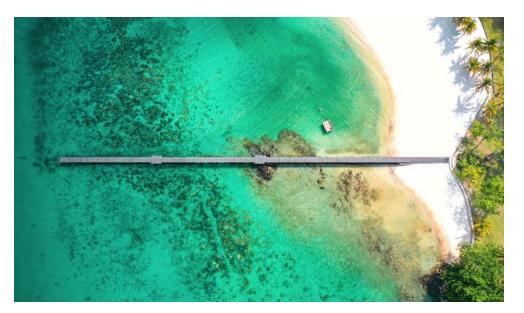
To the northwest of Koh Samaesan lies the heart of the island. Hat Luk Lom is undoubtedly the main stage where you will find all the facilities required for a great vacation, and all the tourists (of course!). The beach offers everything, from fun beach games and relaxing spots to kayaking, snorkel diving, and boats with glass-floor.



A RIDE AROUND KOH KHAM



allowed to set foot on the island each day. The pristine beach to the north provides an excellent leisure spot to take a dip in the crystal-clear water while the rocky southern coast features a wooden bridge that stretches into the sparkling sea - the perfect setting for your Instagram profile! Koh Kham opens on Monday - Thursday at 9.00 - 10.00, and open all day on Friday to Sunday and public holidays. Make sure you checkout the island opening times before planning a visit.







AROUND SAMAESAN BAY

CHILLING BOAT CRUISE AND CHECK OUT THE UNDERWATER WORLD OF "SAMAESAN BAY"

You don't have to be on Koh Samaesan or Koh Kham to enjoy a breath-taking dive. Diving tours and private boats are available at Samaesan Pier for a memorable underwater experience. The whole day trip offers a chance to see beautiful marine ecology where turtles swim leisurely with schools of tiny fishes around the coral reef. Some diving tours also offer photo service, so you won't have to buy all the fancy waterproof equipment to get your new favourite photo. Keep in mind that you are not allowed to get on any island unless permitted. Diving spots change from Koh Chuang, Koh Rong Khon, Koh Rong Nung, and Koh Yung Kleau (Koh Yung Chang), depending on each season.





WAT CHONG SAMAESAN VIEWPOINT

Wat Chong Samaesan is home to the statue of Venerable Luang Por Dum, the most venerated monk in Samaesan. It is accustomed for fishermen to pay respect to Luang Por Dum and ask for a safe trip before sailing off. The temple is majestically decorated with sculptures of angels and paintings of Buddhist history. Visitors can also climb up to the peak for the spectacular panoramas of Samaesan.



Address: Wat Chong Samaesan, Ban Chong Samaesan, Sattahip, Chonburi



AROUND SAMAESAN VILLAGE



KRUA SAMAESAN SEAFOOD

A seaside trip won't be completed without fresh and delicious seafood! Freshly caught seafood are expertly prepared into some of everyone's favourite menus like Stir-fried squid with salted egg, Seafood Tomyum, and Fried mantis shrimp with garlic. Complementing the dishes is the seaside atmosphere on the spacious and breezy terrace – a great way to relax and refill!

Address: Samaesan, Sattahip, Chonburi Tel. 062 515 9922 Opening Hours:

SEA VIEW VILLA

Chic and imaginative explains the style of Sea View Villa as the resort brings Dr. Slump to life. If you are a generation X, there is a good chance you will recognize, or even a fan of Arale, the little girl robot in Dr. slump manga. There are lots of spots to take a photo with Dr. Slump props and background. Offering a comfortable stay, the rooms and villas are well-appointed and come equipped with all the amenities for a relaxing stay. The resort also offers private diving tours and day tours around Samaesan Bay.

Address: 18/119 Samaesan, Sattahip, Chonburi Tel. 090 001 2524





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