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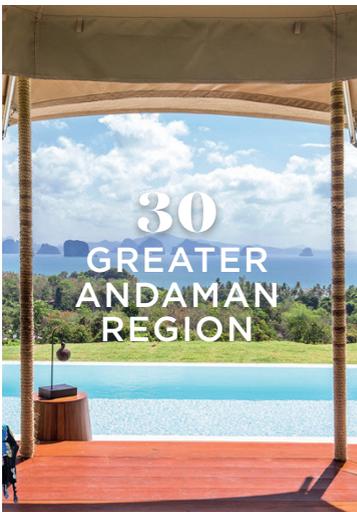
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# HOT SPOTS CONTENTS



## Through a local lens

Hot Spots isn't your usual travel guide. Rather than rehashing all the familiar names and places you can easily find online, we call on our network of insiders to uncover the hottest new hotels, bars, restaurants and attractions that have locals really excited. We know that our well-traveled readers want to go deeper, get in on the action, experience Thailand with a fresh perspective. That means sinking your teeth into the most talked-about tables in Bangkok, burning off steam at the trendiest gym along Samui's bustling shores and channeling your inner artist at Chiang Mai's funkier new lifestyle space, where all the cool kids are currently hanging out. You'll find all that and more in Hot Spots 2019, as well as the lowdown on emerging destinations well off the beaten path.

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# BANGKOK

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Those who visit Bangkok regularly are familiar with the rich tapestry of sights, sounds, flavors and cultures that make the Thai capital such an extraordinary destination. From heritage sites and temples in Rattanakosin to the poetic chaos of Chatuchak Weekend Market, there's always something deeper to discover on the well-trodden path. But it's the new growth happening at the edges of the old—the signs of Thai creativity entering the next stage of its evolution—that's really worth your attention.



## - EAT -

### **Olta**

This pared-back restaurant on Suan Phlu serves a menu that's big on local and sustainable produce. Expect reinterpretations of British soul food—including a reimagined Scotch egg made with pork belly sausage and quail eggs—in a space that caters to both casual and special-occasion dining. Enjoy the breeze on the terrace, get away from it all in a private booth or belly up to the bar if you're feeling sociable.

101/11 Suan Phlu Rd., +6694-656-2159. Open daily 6pm-midnight. [olta.co](http://olta.co)

### **Sorn**

Located in a decades-old house, this 20-seat restaurant has been the talk of the town since opening. That's thanks to a posh dining room, bold flavors and traditional techniques—including fermentation and coconut milk squeezed on-site daily. Five

courses take on the customary Thai sharing style here, and the attention to detail in each dish is apparent, with the preparation often seeming closer to a construction project than simple cookery.

56 Sukhumvit Soi 26, +6699-081-1119. Tue-Sun noon-2pm, 6-11pm. [sornfinesouthern.com](http://sornfinesouthern.com)

### **Paii**

After shutting down The Dining Room at its stately House on Sathorn, the W Bangkok has filled the empty space with this excellent Thai seafood restaurant. Paii ups the spice level—and the serving sizes—in classic dishes that highlight fresh produce. These run the gamut from plates of fried rice packed with 500 grams of local mud crab to plump charcoal-grilled river prawns served alongside fiery *choo chee* curry.

The House on Sathorn, 106 North Sathorn Rd., +662-344-4000. Open daily noon-midnight. [paiibangkok.com](http://paiibangkok.com)

# HI-SO



## HI-SO AT SO SOFITEL BANGKOK TAKES SOCIALIZATION TO NEW HEIGHTS

From its 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> floor rooftop perch, HI-SO is the best spot in the city to snapshot the sunset over the skyline before the city twinkles to life. The birds-eye view over the lush Lumpini Park sprawled out in all its forested glory is second to none. Wherever the evening takes you, drift up for a nightcap with cocktails custom-concocted by our mixologist, SO Kish, the entertainer and beverages specialist who knows everything about distilling happiness into a glass.

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## SO/ BANGKOK

## Taan

Most of Bangkok's new pack of innovative, locally-focused Thai restaurants have popped up in back alleys or converted warehouses. Taan flips the script, serving uncompromising, inventive, soulful and balanced Thai dishes on the 25th floor of the Siam@Siam hotel. The menu is packed with options. For a surefire hit, order from the sets, pair the starters with the rum-chili-and-mango Ku-Sa-Ma cocktail and cap it all with a quality Riesling.

25/F Siam@Siam Design Hotel, 865 Rama 1 Rd., +6665-328-7374. Tue-Sat 6pm-midnight. [taanbangkok.com](http://taanbangkok.com)

## Funky Lam

Full-flavored Laotian recipes and an old-school funk soundtrack combine inside this uber-cool, noir-industrial dining room. Fans of Isaan, northern Thai and Vietnamese food will find plenty of familiar fare in the salads, soups and grilled meats, but there are surprises, too. These include dishes like *kaipen* (fried Mekong riverweed served with three types of spicy dips) and the funky, full-flavored papaya salad, with liberal doses of fermented fish sauce.

The Taste Thonglor, 235 Thonglor Soi 11, +662-050-0469. Wed-Sun 6-11:30pm, Mon 6-11pm. [funkyorkitchen.com](http://funkyorkitchen.com)



FUNKY LAM

## Hummus Boutique

This all-Mediterranean, all-vegetarian hole-in-the-wall Turkish spot has become Thonglor's go-to for hummus. The signature chickpea dip is elevated with tons of toppings and styles. Try the Lucid Dreams, which features avocado, rocket, egg, kalamata olives, almonds and balsamic over a bowl of creamy hummus. The more traditional Falafel Party combines crispy falafel with hummus and a chopped pickle salad. Scoop up all that deliciousness with an order of house-made pita.

999 Sukhumvit Rd., +6692-819-8131. [hummusboutiquebkk.com](http://hummusboutiquebkk.com)

## Ici

Set inside a well-appointed house surrounded by a garden, this dessert-dedicated restaurant doles out picturesque sweet treats. Pastry chef Arisara "Paper" Chongphanitkul made her name at Issaya Siamese Club and the fine-dining sensation Saawaan. Now she's turning out creations like Blueberry Balloon, a luscious blend of cheesecake, blueberry *gelee*, lemon cream, biscuit *joconde* and buttery crumble base, as well as macarons in unique flavors like salted egg and caramelized onion.

24 Sukhumvit Soi 27, +662-007-3113. [fb.com/ici.bkk](http://fb.com/ici.bkk)



## CREATIVE REBIRTH

Historic and forgotten buildings throughout Bangkok are emerging from years of neglect to host new art galleries and creative endeavors.

Located within a 120-year-old former school, the multi-purpose art, retail and F&B hub **ATT 19** puts forward a convincing case for the tasteful regeneration of heritage buildings. You can now shop for Japanese ceramics, Asian antiques and handmade décor or admire rotating exhibitions among the eaves of the original

building. (19 Charoenkrung Soi 30, +6683-555-5739. Open Mon-Sat 11am-7pm).

In Silom, two entrepreneurs turned a five-story building that had sat vacant since the 1997 Tom Yum Kung Crisis into a mixed-use hub for creatives. **The Woof Pack Building** is now home to a handful of companies, independent cinema Bangkok Screening Room and hip eateries like Vietnamese restaurant Happy Endings. (1/3-9 Sala Daeng Soi 1, Silom, +6689-826-2299)

Now known as **Bangkok 1899**, the crisp, white three-story Baan Chao Phraya Thammakamontri is open to the public for the first time in 120 years. Standing out among the sleepy shophouses in the Nang Loeng neighborhood, the historic building welcomes collaborative art projects, socially-minded workshops and even just the general pursuit of leisure. (134 Nakhon Sawan Rd., [bangkok1899.org](http://bangkok1899.org)).



# THE ESTELLE

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## HOT SPOTS BANGKOK



- DRINK -

### Seen Restaurant & Bar

Avani Riverside Hotel's 26th-floor rooftop restaurant has transformed into the third global outpost of Portuguese celebrity chef Olivier Da Costa's Seen Restaurant and Bar (Sao Paulo, Lisbon). There's no beating those views, but the nine Asian-inspired cocktails—with touches like lemongrass-infused vodka, coriander-infused soju and kaffir lime syrup—give this riverside perch an edge. Not to mention upbeat house music from Scottie B, a former resident DJ at Ministry of Sound London.

26/F, Avani Riverside Bangkok, 257 Charoen Nakhon Rd., +662-431-9120.  
[fb.com/seen.restaurant.bar](http://fb.com/seen.restaurant.bar)

### 008

Founded by a rising star on Bangkok's nightlife scene—Pailin "Milk" Sajjanit, formerly of cocktail bar Vesper—this quasi-hidden bar puts the focus on spirit-forward cocktails, drawing inspiration from the forgotten recipes of the Prohibition Era. Complementing these well-rounded drinks are the jazz soundtrack and amber-lit, lounge-like setting. While this might lead you to believe 008 is a spot for serious drinkers only, it has a fun, lively vibe that caters to everyone.

008 Bar, 11/F, Akyra Hotel, Sukhumvit Soi 55, +662-392-8959. [theakya.com](http://theakya.com)

### The Champagne Bar

Bangkok's most sumptuous speakeasy looms 57 floors above Ratchadamri Road at the Waldorf Astoria and requires a little work to find. The elevator stops at the 56th floor; walk up the marble staircase and take a close look at the artwork to find your way into a Gatsby-esque space serving a Champagne selection that's perfect for celebrations, plus light bites like caviar, oysters and charcuterie boards.

57/F, Waldorf Astoria Bangkok, 151 Ratchadamri, +662-846-8888.

### Liberation

Members of three Bangkok nightlife staples—Rabbit Hole, Tropic City and Backstage—have teamed up for this sleek spot, which serves inventive drinks inspired by old propaganda posters. For instance, the Vegan War—made with clarified tomato and sous-vide cabbage—draws on the "Dig for Victory" WWII-era initiative in which governments encouraged citizens to grow their own vegetables. With its refined culinary approach to building cocktails, this is arguably the most advanced bar in Bangkok right now.

Piman 49, Sukhumvit Soi 49, +66 93-654-2500. [fb.com/liberationbkk](http://fb.com/liberationbkk)



### Alonetogether

A joint venture between the teams behind Ku Bar and Sugar Ray, the two-story, speakeasy-like Alonetogether keeps it classy with stiff cocktails, live jazz and cigars. The bar team gives the classics a subtle local twist—the Frozen Screwdriver, for instance, incorporates pomelo into the build while the Cold Fashioned features black cardamom. Jazz bands perform four nights a week on the ground floor, while the second-floor cigar lounge doubles as a vinyl listening room.

29 Sukhumvit Soi 31, +662-163-4778.  
[fb.com/alonetogetherbkk](http://fb.com/alonetogetherbkk)



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## HOT SPOTS BANGKOK

- DO -

### Mahanakhon Skywalk

Thailand's tallest observation deck is now open to visitors. The experience starts on the 74th and 75th floors, where visitors get an augmented reality experience of Thailand's top tourist attractions. On the 78th floor, the 314-meter-high "Peak" offers panoramic views of the city's skyline, while one floor below the Glass Tray—a fittingly named glass-bottomed floor—gets your adrenaline pumping before you even step foot on it.

74, 75, 78/F, King Power Mahanakhon, Narathiwad Rd., +662-677-8721. Open daily 10am-midnight. [kingpowermahanakhon.co.th](http://kingpowermahanakhon.co.th)

### IconSiam

Home to over 500 shops, 100 restaurants and two luxury apartment buildings, this 50,000 sq-meter mega-mall offers endless retail therapy and entertainment next to the Chao Phraya River. Some of the many highlights include an impressive riverside park and 400-meter-long water feature, as well as the first Apple Store and Takashima-

ya department store in Thailand. 299 Charoen Nakhon Rd., +662-495-7080. [iconsiam.com](http://iconsiam.com)

### Siri House

Property developer Sansiri claims bragging rights to one of Bangkok's most interesting new multi-purpose venues. Occupying a two-story, mid-century house on Soi Somkid, Siri House gathers a who's who of food and beverage venues, including brunch favorite Luka and the second-coming of popular all-day-dining venue Quince. On top of the Jackie O-inspired cocktail bar Jacqueline, a hipster-baiting vinyl shop, a boutique bookstore and a florist offer more reasons to linger.

14/2 Soi Som Khit, Phloen Chit Rd., +6694-868-2639. [sirihouse.com](http://sirihouse.com)

### Panpuri Wellness

The latest branch of the high-end spa brand focuses on Japanese onsen-style treatments. There are five mineral-rich onsen pools (separated into men's and women's) overlooking Ratchaprasong. All of them use mineral water from Kusatsu—a

town renowned for its naturally occurring hot springs. Opt for all-day entry, book a private bath or pop into one of the other facilities, like the Himalayan salt sauna and relaxation room.

12/F, Gaysorn Urban Retreat, Gaysorn Village, Phloen Chit Rd., +66 02-253-8899. [www.panpuri.com/wellness](http://www.panpuri.com/wellness)

### Gaysorn Urban Resort

Occupying 2,300 sq meters on the 19th and 20th floors of Gaysorn Village, this co-working space offers hot desks, lounge areas, meeting rooms and private workspaces with the relaxed ambience you might expect from a fancy spa. It's not just about work here, either. You can go on a leisurely stroll at the outdoor "Greenery Sky Garden" or head to 1823 Tea Lounge by Ronnefeldt for a tea break.

19-20/F, Gaysorn Tower, 127 Ratchadamri Rd., +662-253-3999. [gaysornurbanresort.com](http://gaysornurbanresort.com)



PANPURI WELLNESS



MAHANAKHON SKYWALK



SIRI HOUSE

## HOT SPOTS BANGKOK

### - STAY -



#### Waldorf Astoria

Southeast Asia's first Waldorf Astoria finally opened in 2018 after six years of construction. The ultra-luxe hotel boasts a stunning infinity pool, a pampering wellness spa and 171 guestrooms—ranging from 50 to 300 sq-meters—all decked out with elegant gold accents and floor-to-ceiling windows. The impressive line-up of bars and restaurants includes Art Nouveau-inspired cocktail bar The Loft and Front Room, where you'll find inventive "Nordic-Thai" tasting menus.

151 Ratchadamri Rd., +6628-468-888. [waldorfasteria3.hilton.com](http://waldorfasteria3.hilton.com)

#### Rosewood Bangkok

The Rosewood strengthens its foothold in Thailand with this property in Phloen Chit. The hotel boasts 159 swanky suites, ranging from 42-291 sq-meters, decked out in cream tones and blue- and gold-hued furnishings. Want to splash out? Consider the 26th-floor Sky Pool Studio, which has its own private terrace and outdoor plunge pool. After dark, get an Asian-inspired cocktail and browse the 6,000-strong vinyl collection at Lennon's.

1041/38 Phloen Chit Rd., +66 02-080-0088.  
[www.rosewoodhotels.com/en/bangkok](http://www.rosewoodhotels.com/en/bangkok)

#### Capella

The arrival of the ultra-luxury hotel brand along the Chao Phraya continues the reinvention of the riverside. All 101 suites in the low-rise development come with sweeping river views, as well as Thai textiles and accents. Within the property, you'll find a riverside restaurant featuring a menu developed with input from Argentinian chef Mauro Colagreco, an Alain Ducasse protégé who runs the show at three-Michelin-starred Mirazur in Menton, France.

300 Charoenkrung Rd., +662-658-7888. [capellahotels.com/en/capella-bangkok](http://capellahotels.com/en/capella-bangkok)



The reports of street food's demise in Bangkok are greatly exaggerated. While a campaign promising to organize the city's sidewalks has forced some vendors out and others to move, diners across Bangkok still gather round the foldable table day and night.

All foodie itineraries should include a visit to the flag-bearer of Thai street eats, **Raan Jay Fai** (327 Maha Chai Rd., +662-223-9384). Run by the legendary, bespectacled Jay Fai, this humble shop known for its plump crab omelets was the city's first Michelin star-winning street food joint. Neighboring **Pad Thai Thip Samai** (313-315 Maha Chai Rd., +662-226-6666) is no slouch, either, having won plaudits for its pad Thai from nearly

### STREET EATS

every major media group. Other time-honored spots like 110-year-old roasted duck noodle joint **Prachak Pet Yang** (1415 Charoenkrung Rd., +662-234-3755) and **Polo Fried Chicken** (137/1-2 Soi Polo, Wireless Rd., +662-655-8489) continue to humbly serve their specialties despite the city evolving at breakneck speed.

Even old-school vendors at risk of disappearing are getting a new lease on life, thanks to **Saphan 55** (759 Sukhumvit Soi 55 [Thonglor], +6698-982-2255). This new community center has brought together some of Bangkok's top street vendors in a slick, airy warehouse-like space, with live music and sports taking the street food experience to another echelon.

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Thailand's second city moves to its own rhythm. The former capital of the Lanna kingdom rewards long, slow walks through its temples and backstreets, peaceful *khanthoke* dinners by the Ping River and journeys into its pristine wilderness. While Chiang Mai might be evolving into a thoroughly modern metropolis, branch out in any direction from its old city walls, and you'll discover the kind of serene country living that has long attracted travelers to the north.



JAMES BASECAMP



LITTLE SHELTER

# CHIANG MAI

- EAT -

## James Basecamp

It takes some guts to open a Nepalese-themed restaurant that doesn't serve any Nepalese food, but James Basecamp did just that. This bohemian spot sits atop Chiang Mai's hippest mall, One Nimman. The menu is all about no-nonsense Thai classics. Visit during the day for good coffee and affordable lunches or check back in the evening when the full booze shelves come into play and local DJs crank up the sound system.

3/F, One Nimman, Nimmanhaemin Rd., +6680-057-6221. Open daily 7am-7pm. [fb.com/jamesbasecamp](https://fb.com/jamesbasecamp)

## Piccolo Wine and Tapas

In late 2018 the well-established David's Kitchen opened its Piccolo extension. The more laid-back Spanish tapas restaurant has an extensive cocktail list made for toasting the early evenings. The two venues share one of the city's most extensive wine cellars. On the menu, you'll find a greatest hits list of Spanish and Mediterranean nibbles—the spicy potato *patatas bravas* with garlic and mayo, and grilled camembert in banana leaf are stand-outs.

113 Bamrungrad Rd., Wat Ket, +6691-072-2431. Mon-Sat 5pm-midnight. [piccolowineandtapas.com](https://piccolowineandtapas.com)



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## HOT SPOTS CHIANG MAI



### Simple Pleasures Cafe

This Lanna cafe serves veggies plucked fresh from its own backyard in Doi Saket. It also boasts an outdoor open kitchen, and pavilion seating by a canal. The owners—an Australian-Dutch couple—make everything from scratch, from bread and muesli to yogurt, chili jams and curry stocks. The cafe's signature is Moroccan *shakshuka*—eggs poached in tomato sauce made using fresh produce from the garden and served with homemade bread.

176 Choeng Doi, Doi Saket, +6693-672-7252.

### Keep in Touch

To the north of the city, this charming plant-covered coffee shop serves Western-inspired dishes, like zucchini fritters topped with creme fraiche, mango salsa and house-smoked salmon, as well as waffles topped with caramelized banana, fresh fruit and ice-cream. You can't go wrong with their classic northern Thai *khao soi* noodles.

24/21 Chonlapatana Rd., +6689-999-0509.  
[fb.com/keepintouchchiangmai](https://www.facebook.com/keepintouchchiangmai)

### Tastecafe Atelier

Located within Weave Artisan Society—an old ice factory transformed into an edgy creative space—this sleek cafe is big on style. Hanging bulbs and green plants contrast with brushed gray walls in a wide open, refurbished warehouse-like space. Settle in with a book and a cappuccino, and pair it with a fresh-baked croissant. Be sure to drop by the art gallery and flower boutique while you're in the building.

Weave Artisan Society, Wua Lai Rd. Soi 3.  
[fb.com/tastecafeatelier](https://www.facebook.com/tastecafeatelier)



### Skoop and Co.

This all new all-day brunch/dessert spot is dedicated to luscious ice cream and hearty eats on bustling Nimman Road. The cafe is splashed in white paint inside and out, and it's set with casual wood furnishings. The brunch menu includes a range of breakfast staples, sandwiches and pastas, and the ice cream flavors are creative—strawberry mascarpone, kuromitsu caramel with Japanese 'black honey' syrup—and available by the scoop. Nimman Soi 7, Tambon Suthep, +6698-271-2362. [fb.com/skoopandcocnx](https://www.facebook.com/skoopandcocnx)

- SHOP -

### House of Wolves Records

A sleek shrine to all things vinyl, this tiny record shop could well be a hipper-than-thou bar or barbershop. Inside, rare original pressings from My Bloody Valentine share rack space with jazz classics and retro Thai titles. Aside from vinyl, there's a small selection of cassettes displayed along with some impressive vintage bric-a-brac. The owner will happily chew the fat about music and offer hot tips for visitors, too.

62/3 Samlan Rd., Prasing, +6695-459-2977. [fb.com/houseofwolvesrecords](https://www.facebook.com/houseofwolvesrecords)

### Kodang Ratchawong

If the endless stream of tour groups at One Nimman has you weary, take a stroll near the Ping River, where industrious young folk have breathed life into the once-dilapidated area. Dig for vintage wear at The Area 51 and Rugged Supply & Co., grab a retro tee at No. 5 or freshen up your look at Buar the Barber. This is where Chiang Mai's cool kids hang out.

153 Ratchawong Rd., +6693-291-4553.

# ESCAPE

SANSIRI HOTEL COLLECTION

## HUA HIN

Escape Hua Hin merges fisherman villages of Thailand's past with the vibrant colours of nature to create the ultimate vacation spot. Situated on the most beautiful beach in Hua Hin and with uniquely designed guestrooms, inspired by the themes Sea, Sand and Sun.



## KHAO YAI

Step into a world of ultimate relaxation and privacy, amidst Khao Yai's mountainous landscape and pure fresh air. Experience the endless charm of nature, reflected in the distinctive design of Earth, Wood, Forest and Floral.



## HOT SPOTS

### CHIANG MAI



#### Crafitti

As the name suggests, Crafitti's ethos centers around fine and intricately-made crafts designed for public display. A wide range of jewelry is available in precious and semi-precious metals, like brass and silver, all carefully formed into unique shapes that can be worn on any occasion. Whenever possible, the jewelry is set with indigenous stones, like naturally occurring "free form" stones. Most of the pieces are hand-wired, hand-set and hand-polished, too.

80 Charoen Rat Rd., +6686-506-6244.  
[fb.com/Crafittishop](https://fb.com/Crafittishop)



#### - STAY -

#### Little Shelter

This small, boutique hotel is distinguished by its Lanna architecture, rooftop deck and its stunning views of the Ping River. The 14 rooms are painted in four different shades—black, white, green and brick orange—and feature minimalist furnishings and dazzling mirror tiled walls. Facilities include a modern cafe, a restaurant specializing in northern Thai fusion, a cocktail and wine bar, and a compact riverside pool.

208/25 Lampoon Rd., +6681-611-9797.  
[fb.com/littleshelterhotel](https://fb.com/littleshelterhotel)

#### Raya Heritage

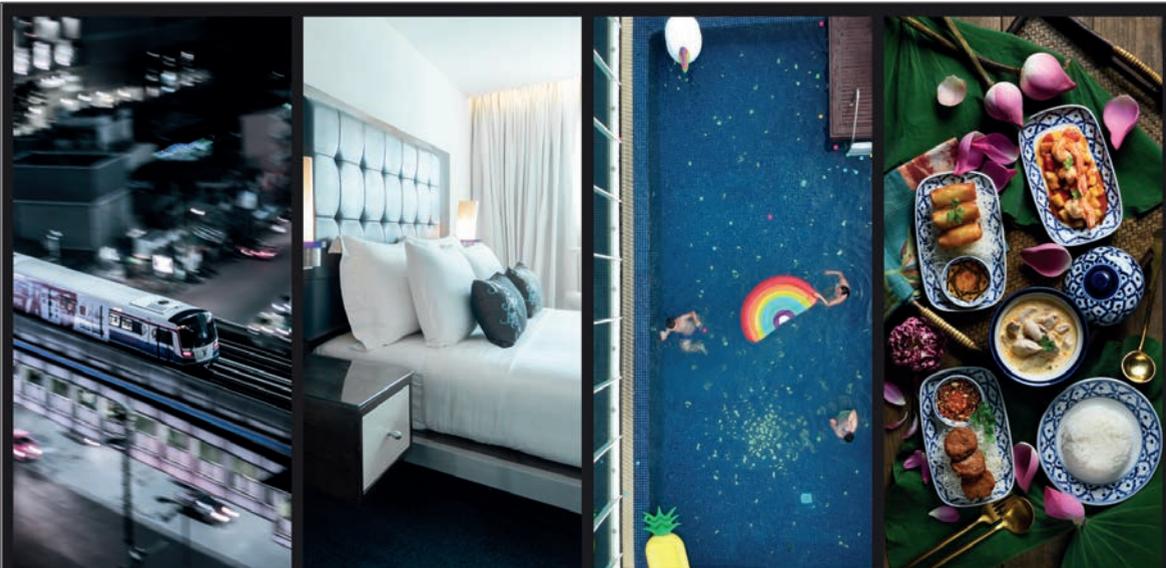
This contemporary wood-and-stone venue set along the Ping River reinterprets classic Lanna design. The curated furniture pieces are all handmade by local craftsmen, and terra cotta tiles, vintage hardwood structure and hand-woven textiles evoke regional traditions. The 33-room resort also bakes social causes into its ethos, giving back to the local community through scholarships, and working with local weavers, potters, woodcarvers and artisans to bring designs to life.

157 Moo 6, Tambon Donkaew, +662-301-1861.  
[rayaheritage.com](https://rayaheritage.com)



#### NIGHT MOVES

Shopaholics, welcome to heaven. Chiang Mai has not one but two weekend markets—Saturday and Sunday—to test your bargaining skills. On Saturday, beginning in the afternoon, the **Wualai Road** area becomes a walking street full of food hawkers and vendors. BBQ fish, *khao soi*, pad Thai and local snacks like *nam prik noom*, as well as handmade scarves, earrings, paintings, carvings, lanterns, indigenous hill tribe art—you name it, they've got it. The market is just a short walk south of the Old City walls. On Sundays, the action shifts to the even bigger and more bustling **Thapae Walking Street**, which stretches along Ratchadamnoen Road from Wat Phra Singha to Thapae Gate (east of the Old City). It might be Chiang Mai's most popular shopping showcase, and it runs from 3pm till midnight. One hot tip: Save yourself the trek and skip the tacky commercial night market on Changklan Road.



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[f https://www.facebook.com/Vananavasky/](https://www.facebook.com/Vananavasky/)
[i Vananavasky](https://www.instagram.com/Vananavasky)

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VanaNavaSky.com



MOVENPICK ASARA RESORT & SPA HUA HIN

# HUA HIN

- EAT -

## Ronin Capsule

This small gallery, tea room and café—owned and operated by a self-described “nerd and his happy family”—is a unique place. Expect clean concrete walls decorated with black-and-white pop art and the kind of ambience that’s ideal for slow mornings. But Ronin is gaining a well-deserved reputation for more than its vibe. The café serves excellent pour-over coffee and tasty desserts to go with it.

41/380 Thippawan Village 3, +6681-668-7414. [fb.com/ronincapsule](https://www.facebook.com/ronincapsule)

## Memory House Cafe

Amble along a wooden boardwalk that cuts through a pine-speckled meadow, and you’ll arrive at a café that wouldn’t feel out of place in rural Hokkaido. Instead, this whimsical, ivory white

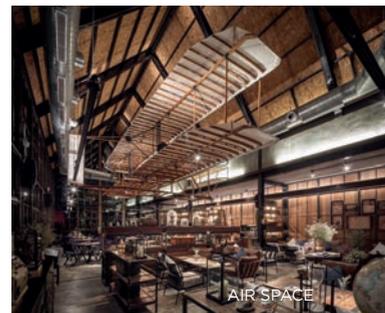
farmhouse is located beside tranquil Khao Tao Reservoir. Order one of the decadent iced drinks, take a seat on the deck and write a postcard to someone you love—the café will mail it whenever you wish.

43/56 Soi Hmu Bahn Wanawil, +6695-663-2901. [fb.com/memoryhouse2019](https://www.facebook.com/memoryhouse2019)

## Air Space

An aeronautical theme pervades this hangar-like space in Khao Takiab—think flight maps on the walls, propellers hanging from the rafters and a full plane model dangling above tables. Multi-story glass walls, potted plants and tons of antiques—musical instruments, classic typewriters, push button cash registers, even a phonograph—round out the interiors, making for a memorable place to enjoy some coffee, a cocktail or well-

Hua Hin might offer Thailand’s best beach not located on an island, and any itinerary should begin at the sea. Whether you’re working on a suntan or eager to try your hand at kite surfing, Hua Hin is an excellent getaway from big-city life in Bangkok. But look beyond the soft sand and sea breezes to the hills, vineyards, water parks, quaint old structures and bustling markets to get to the heart of what makes this seaside escape so special.



AIR SPACE

executed Thai seafood dishes.

12/399 Hua Dorn, Nong Kae, +6663-916-0999. [fb.com/airspace](https://www.facebook.com/airspace)

## Hagi

For high-quality Japanese food in Hua Hin, Hagi is your best bet. Located at the beachside Centara Grand, the restaurant turns out the whole spectrum of Japanese dishes—sushi, sashimi, tempura, even teppanyaki—with seasonal produce. If you want a show, go for the indoor teppanyaki tables, but when the weather is right, it’s hard to beat a cool cocktail with fresh Japanese food in the garden.

Centara Grand Beach Resort & Villas Hua Hin, 1 Damnoen Kasem Alley, +66-032-512-021 ext. 707. [fb.com/Hagiatchbr](https://www.facebook.com/Hagiatchbr)

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  SOSofitelHuaHin  SOHuaHin



## - DO -

### Joe Thale's House

You may not know Joe Thale, but if you've been to Hua Hin, you've likely seen his work. His murals straddle intersections, and he's painted dozens of lightposts, benches, sign posts, walls, tables, curbs, dumpsters, grates and even old musical instruments. His home overflows with art and he's happy to welcome guests in to browse his makeshift gallery—just follow the paintings leading to the entrance.

64/1 Nahb Kaehat Rd.

## - STAY -

### De ChaoChom

The former summer residence of Chao Chom Manda Mhod—the royal mother of Prince Abhakara Kiartivongse of Chumphon—has been renovated, expanded and turned into a picturesque boutique hotel set right on the seaside, just around the corner from the Seenspace lifestyle mall. To see where the royal family spent its time, book one of the beachfront properties. The newer square-shaped pool villas are nothing to sniff at, though.

3/1 Bor Fai Village, Soi 35, +6632-900-246.  
fb.com/dechaochom

### Movenpick Asara Resort & Spa Hua Hin

This seaside resort has taken over the former Asara Villa & Suites just off Hua Hin's main strip. The 96 private suites and pool villas—all between 120 and 400 sq meters—feature

neutral tones, wood accents and Thai patterns for a homey yet modern feel. If you get tired of diving into your private pool, check into the Asara Spa or take your pick between the onsite Thai and French restaurants.

53 Hua Hin 5 Soi, +6632-520-777. [bit.ly/2lre2j9](http://bit.ly/2lre2j9)

### SO Sofitel Hua Hin

SO Sofitel Hua Hin has opened 31 suites in a new wing loaded with amenities—a 60-meter pool with an inflatable adventure course, an onsite 18-hole mini golf course, a 627-meter bicycle track and a court for tennis and basketball. Design-wise, it features earthy palettes and raw-natural furnishings, like the four-poster wooden beds found in the 56 sq-meter rooms, and two-story, open-plan rooms.

115 Moo 7 Tambon Bangkiao Phetchaburi,  
+66 032-709-555. [www.so-sofitel-huahin.com](http://www.so-sofitel-huahin.com)

### Chiva-Som

Last October, Thailand's trailblazing wellness resort completed its first major, top-to-toe renovation since opening 24 years ago. On top of incorporating new technology, the Niranlada Medi-Spa, Bathing Pavilion and Spa & Therapy Suites have seen their interiors reimaged, with teak, Thai silk and bamboo offsetting a natural color palette. The Taste of Siam seafood restaurant, meanwhile, now features an open-air kitchen and an indoor-outdoor layout that can accommodate 100 guests.

73/4 Petchkasem Rd., +6632 536 536.  
[chivasom.com](http://chivasom.com)



## HIT THE STREETS

Eating out in Hua Hin doesn't necessarily mean dining at the hotel restaurant. For street food and eclectic cuisine, look to local haunt **Soi 51**, the road running from the minivan depot to the beach. Here you'll find atmospheric places that change from day to night, as well as restaurants that run the gamut from southern Thai (Roti Teh Tarik, Mooz Hua Hin) to Chinese (Heng Heng Dim Sum) to upscale Italian (Bear's Pizzeria & Ristorante) and classic Thai (Baan Thong Kham). At night, the street turns into a nightlife hub, led by long-standing live music club Click.



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Thailand's largest island is so much more than world-class beaches and sapphire-colored bays—although you'd be forgiven for spending your days lounging on Bang Tao and your nights kicking back at one of its excellent beach clubs. Spiritual experiences at hilltop temples, tastings and tours at the Chalong Bay Rum Distillery, jungle hikes, craft markets in Phuket Town, golfing at championship-caliber country clubs, canoeing through the karst in otherworldly Phang Nga Bay: Phuket is the rare destination that offers something for everyone, and it keeps getting better.



# PHUKET

- EAT -

## Prime

From its al fresco beachside perch, this hotel restaurant deals in fine-dining European flavors. Naked flames and a charcoal grill light up the open-air kitchen, where chefs slave over infallibly juicy dry-aged wagyu flank steaks and rib-eyes. There's more than high-end red meat on the menu, though. Seafood dishes like masala-marinated coral trout offer lighter flavors that cry out for glasses of wine from the James Suckling-curated list.

*The Nai Harn, 23/3 Moo 1, Visas Rd., +6676-380-200.  
fb.com/primerocksaltphuket*

## Campus Coffee Roaster

In rustic new digs beneath the Romanee Classic guest house, this beloved Phuket cafe continues its legacy of coffee roasted in-house with beans sourced from across Thailand. The menu is simple, and includes baked goods like chocolate fudge cake and banana bread. Pair these with a nitro cold brew, a basic hot drip or the cafe's signature coffee jelly topped with a frosty milkshake.

*6 Krabi Rd., +6692-218-9292.  
fb.com/campuscoffeeroaster*

## Ma Doo Bua

Located alongside a lotus pond in an antique house in Thalang, this gorgeous restaurant focuses on dishes that celebrate the versatile, nutritious and delicious lotus stem. Think lotus stems deep-fried to golden perfection, stir-fried with shrimp paste or candied and served atop creamy panna cotta. The drink list, meanwhile, offers exciting new flavors in the form of a spicy *tom yam* soda and a melon-flavored latte with tapioca bubbles.

*310/51 Moo 1, Baandon-Cherngtalay Rd., +6663-593-9939.  
fb.com/Maadoobua.Phuket*

## Seasoning

Far from the chaos of the city, this Thai-Italian restaurant occupies a beautiful brick house hidden among the trees. Seasoning manages to do fusion without compromising authentic tastes—as in the crispy soft shell crab spaghetti with crabs' eggs, and heartier fare like grilled pork ribs slathered in BBQ sauce. The dessert menu changes daily, but the drinks are classic, like Italian sodas flavored with passion fruit, lemon, strawberry and kiwi.

*2/1 Moo 1, Cherngtalay Soi 3, +6680-520-8666.  
fb.com/seasoning.phuket*



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Get away this weekend to one of Hua Hin's most charming resorts, Hua Hin Marriott Resort & Spa, the perfect place to relax and rejuvenate yourself. Effortlessly blending modern design with Thai hospitality, the resort reflects the cultural heritage within the modern comfort. With white sandy beach and lush tropical gardens, exquisite gastronomy in our beachfront restaurants and serene spa treatments, you can simply unwind yourself and enjoy the moments with your loved ones in the beating heart of Hua Hin.

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**MARRIOTT RESORT  
HUA HIN**



BUTCHER'S GARDEN

### Butcher's Garden

If you're hungry for steak, then make a stop at this sleek, Sino Portuguese-inspired space at Hotel Indigo on Patong. Meat is taken so seriously here there's even an onsite dry-ageing room. Choose your preferred cut and serving style from a lineup that includes 30-day dry-aged T-bone steaks, wagyu burgers with blue cheese and beef short ribs braised and simmered for 72 hours in green curry.

Hotel Indigo, 124 Rat U Thit 200 Pee Rd., +6676-609-999. fb.com/pg/butchersgarden

### Arva

While its menu advertises heartwarming Italian dishes, luxury resort Amanpuri's latest restaurant keeps it refreshingly local. Snapper, lobster, soft-shell crab, tiger prawns, mud crabs and grouper all come from a single island fisherman, the free-range chickens and eggs are sourced locally and the produce is picked up fresh each day from wet markets in Phuket Town. Come evening, the breezy open dining room is ideal for romantic sundowners, too.

Amanpuri, Pansea Beach, Cherngtalay, +6676-324-333. aman.com/resorts/amanpuri/arva-restaurant

### EKO Izakaya

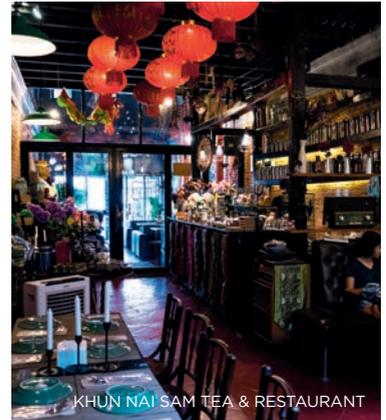
Colorful prints, red lanterns and upturned beer crates let you know this isn't your average Phuket Town bar. EZO is all that's fun about Tokyo drinking culture transported to the reenergized Sino-Portuguese quarter. The menu reads like a greatest hits list—teriyaki, *karaage*, sushi, sashimi—but the signature is the *donburi*, raw fish topped with a secret spicy sauce. Wash it down with beer in three sizes: Samurai (355ml), Shogun (640ml) and Emperor (1,200ml).

54 Chanacharoen Rd., +6663-564-4535. fb.com/EKOizakaya

### Khun Nai Sam Tea & Restaurant

This quaint Sino-Portuguese shophouse has a faded baroque façade, red brick walls, vintage picture frames, Chinese lanterns and leather booths. A petite courtyard in the rear—with a fountain and potted trees—is the perfect setting for a tea set. The menu is heavy with seafood and Isaan classics. These may not be your traditional accompaniment to tea, but the combo works better than you might think.

16 Phuket Rd., +6690-915-9289. fb.com/khun.nai.sam



KHUN NAI SAM TEA & RESTAURANT



### OLD TOWN ROADS

Phuket's food culture is among the richest of any Thai province, with influences drawn from Thailand, China, India and Malaysia. Mornings on the island are made for *kanom jeen* and flaky roti, and lunch means classic Hokkien *mee* and noodle dishes. Don't miss Ko Benz's *khao tom haeng*, or dry rice soup—an Old Town classic (Krabi Rd., Phuket Town, +6684-060-7799). Southern cuisine is also celebrated island-wide and includes full-flavored favorites like *moo hong* (braised pork belly with pepper and garlic), *gaeng nue poo bai cha ploo* (crab meat with curry and coconut milk) and *pad sataw kapi goong* (stir fried sataw beans with shrimp). For dessert, hunt down some chewy Phuket *toop-tap* peanut brittle or flaky *tao sor* mooncakes.



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**INTERCONTINENTAL®**  
PHUKET RESORT

## HOT SPOTS

### PHUKET



- DO -

#### Project Artisan

Creative classes, spa treatments, “slow” fast food and more await you at this community-oriented creative hub. With a boho beach-chic design that wouldn’t feel out of place in Bali, Project Artisan offers everything from fresh-baked artisanal bread to local craft beer at the Tippy Bar. Throw in a retail space dedicated to Thai arts and crafts, live music and workshops, and it’s easy to see why this has become a go-to spot for locals.

53/17 Moo 6, Cherngtalay, +6693-790-9911.  
[theprojectartisan.com](http://theprojectartisan.com)

#### John Gray’s Sea Canoe

To really experience Phuket’s beauty book a tour with legendary Californian canoer John Gray, star of the Emmy-winning canoeing documentary “Moloka’i’s Forgotten Frontier.” He washed up in Phuket in 1990—to all our benefit. The eight-hour tour includes a Thai guide, tidal sea caves and lagoons surrounded by limestone karst. Enjoy dinner on the boat before taking a magical journey into a cave filled with glimmering bioluminescent plankton—truly a dream-like experience.

+6676-254-505. [johngray-seacanoer.com](http://johngray-seacanoer.com)

#### Andaman Cruises

You can’t go wrong with a boat cruise in the tropics—especially when that boat is a yacht. Andaman Cruises offers ships from 26-135 feet long, including luxurious cruisers, fast sport boats and floating masterpieces. Round up some friends, split the



cost and enjoy the trip of a lifetime through breathtaking scenery, sailing past limestone cliffs, through tranquil bays to white sand beaches.

106/46 Moo 3, Surin Beach Road, Cherngtalay, +6676-316-561.  
[andaman-cruises.com](http://andaman-cruises.com)

#### The Thailand Yacht Show & Rendezvous

Thailand’s luxury yachting event of the year returns to the Royal Phuket Marina Jan 9-12, 2020. More than 50 yachts are expected to hit the water, with over 90 brands taking over the marina-side exhibition hall. As well as yachts, superyachts and marine-related services, the event will showcase high-end properties, fashion, supercars and food and beverages—including a new VIP lounge and floating bar in the middle of the marina.

Royal Phuket Marina, 68 Thepkasattri Rd., Kohkaew. [thailandyachtshow.com](http://thailandyachtshow.com)



## EXPERIENCE THE BEST IN SUN, SAND AND SEA

Set along the shores of Phuket's Bang Tao Bay on the island's sunset coast, welcome to Angsana Laguna Phuket, part of Asia's first integrated resort, Laguna Phuket. This beachfront resort offers endless activities to bring out the passionate adventurer in you.

**Resort Features:** 6 restaurants and bars, XANA Beach Club, Angsana Spa, Tree House kid's Club, non-motorized watersports, recreation activities, cooking class, bicycle tour and beachfront leisure.

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[www.angsana.com/thailand/laguna-phuket](http://www.angsana.com/thailand/laguna-phuket)



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LAGUNA PHUKET

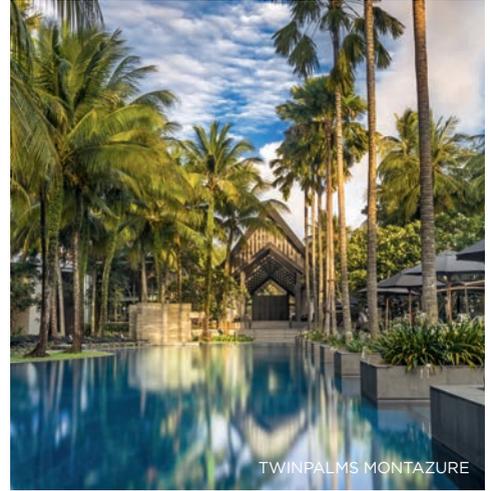
SENSING THE MOMENT

[ANGSANA.COM](http://ANGSANA.COM)



## HOT SPOTS

### PHUKET



### - STAY -

#### Summer House

Tucked away on Hongyok Utis, this coffee shop and guesthouse brings a slice of the beach to Phuket Town. Inside, whites, blues, rustic wood tables, cacti and plenty of light contribute to an Aussie surfer cafe feel. The kitchen busts out comforting breakfast plates like pancakes and crispy bacon, as well as sandwiches, BBQ dishes and smoothies. Upstairs, bedrooms come decked out in the same beachy blue and white tones with minimalist furnishings.

2 Soi Hangnokyooong, Hongyok Utis Rd., Talad Yai, Phuket Town, +6680-696-3532.  
fb.com/phuketsummerhouse

#### UZenmaya Phuket

This five-star property just north of Patong has undergone a refreshingly modern makeover. On top of king-sized beds, Jacuzzi tubs and views of quiet Kalim beach, the rooms now boast Sino-Portuguese influences throughout—ceramic blue tiles, polished concrete floors and mahogany accents. Other facilities include an ocean-view lounge, a romantic cliffside restaurant and bar, a fully equipped gym, a library and a spa with five treatment rooms.

6/181 Kathu Rd., Kathu, +6676-336-888.  
uhotelsresorts.com/uzenmayaphuket

#### Xinlor House

This family-run boutique hotel occupies an unassuming townhouse in Phuket's Old Town that used to be a spare parts shop. Now it's filled out with rows of vibrant green potted plants, photos of old Phuket and exclusive guestrooms that feature a fresh white and blue color scheme. The suites come with either a hot tub or balcony—the latter is ideal for observing the local goings on and surrounding Indo-Chinese architecture.

78 Dibuk Rd., Talad Nuea, +6681-891-7733.  
xinlorhouse.com

#### TwinPalms MontAzure

Three of Asia's most prestigious property groups—The Narai Group, Thailand; Arch Capital, Hong Kong; and Philean Capital, Singapore—teamed up to create one exceptional resort. The result is 178 acres of beachfront mountainscape on Phuket's central sunset coast. The beach, alone, is more than 800 feet long and includes shaded groves of casuarina trees. It doesn't get much more exclusive than this.

100/210, Kamala, Kathu District, +6676-689-900.  
montazure.com/site



#### PAINT THE TOWN

Vivid murals leap to life on shophouse walls across Phuket Town. To find the best pieces, start your stroll near Romane Road and take in Rakkit Kuanhavej's trademark colorful, geometric bird design, as well as part of Alex Face's series of Phuket-referencing works. On Phang Nga Road, you'll find Mue Bon's trademark hipster chicken, while Dibuk Road is now home to 4 Studio's striking mural of King Rama IX residing above the clouds.



# MAGICAL MOMENTS ON PHUKET'S PURE SHORE

Experience genuine Thai hospitality and a refined art of hosting, just minutes away from the rest of the world. Offering magnificent views of the Andaman Sea, the 180-room Phuket Marriott Resort and Spa, Nai Yang Beach features a lively pool concept, diverse dining options, extensive kid's facilities, and an exclusive Quan Spa.

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92, 92/1 moo 3, Sakoo, Talang, Phuket 83110, Thailand  
T: +66 (0) 76 625 555 [www.phuketmarriottnaiyang.com](http://www.phuketmarriottnaiyang.com)

 [PhuketMarriottNaiYang](https://www.facebook.com/PhuketMarriottNaiYang)  [phuketmarriott\\_naiyang](https://www.instagram.com/phuketmarriott_naiyang)



**MARRIOTT RESORT  
PHUKET  
NAI YANG BEACH**



THE HIDEOUT

# GREATER ANDAMAN REGION



9 HORNILLS

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When travelers talk about Thailand's postcard-perfect scenery, they're usually referring to the destinations in and along the Andaman Sea. This is where limestone karst casts dramatic silhouettes at sunset, the water turns a brighter shade of blue and the white sand beaches feel like powder between your toes. From rock-climbing mecca Railay to laid-back Koh Lanta, bustling Ao Nang and empty islands so beautiful they might bring tears to your eyes, this region is as much a playground for adventure-seekers as it is a paradise for those seeking a sunnier kind of nirvana.

## - STAY -

### **The Hideout**

Nestled in a verdant tropical forest on the secluded island of Koh Yao Noi in Phang Nga Bay, this little oasis features charming treetop villas with stunning views of the secluded coast. It is designed as a sanctuary for therapy and detox, and it offers wellness in an eco-conscious environment. Packages are also available (the Digital Detox is a popular option) and combine yoga, jungle meditation, mindfulness training and healing classes. Vegan meals are available.

37/3 Moo 2, Koh Yao Noi, Koh Yao, Phang Nga, +66846-458-963. [hideoutkoyao.com](http://hideoutkoyao.com)

### **9 Hornbills**

Koh Yao Noi is also home to 9 Hornbills, a sumptuous glamping retreat with giant safari tent villas. The villas are absolutely massive (108 sq-meters), and include four-post beds, open-air rain showers, clawfoot bathtubs and minibars, as well as private gardens and swimming pools. The facilities are highlighted by a private beach, with kayaking and paddle boards for the active-minded. Yoga, meditation classes, snorkeling, diving and cliff climbing are also available.

24/2 Moo 5 T. Koh Yao Noi, +6676-410-782. [9hornbills.com](http://9hornbills.com)

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## HOT SPOTS

### KRABI



#### - EAT -

#### Ruen Mai

A must-do dining experience, for both the food and the atmosphere. Located halfway between Ao Nang and Krabi Town, Ruen Mai is housed in a beautiful all-bamboo structure with an amazing high-pitched conical roof. The peaceful surroundings are all waterways, bridges and salas where you can book for private groups. The food is excellent: don't miss the grilled eggplant with coconut milk, the prawn and pomelo salad or the wing-bean salad. Service is friendly and professional. One of the very top dining experiences in the Krabi/Ao Nang area.

117 Moo 3 Tambon Saitai, Muang Krabi, +6689-288-3232. [fb.com/ruenmaikrabirestuarant](https://fb.com/ruenmaikrabirestuarant)

#### Baan Ton Mai Cafe

This leafy new addition to the Ao Nang dining scene brings you into the jungle, offering balconies and outdoor areas that allow you to enjoy dining in exotic settings. The menu offers Thai specialties, fusion dishes and a range of refreshing drinks, but the setting is as much a reason to visit as the food. There's a freshwater river running at the back, which keeps the temperature down and the wow factor up.

218, Tambon Nong Thale, Krabi, +6681-891-4849. [fb.com/baantonmaicafekrabi](https://fb.com/baantonmaicafekrabi)

#### Cold Cat and Hot Dog

The unusual name definitely doesn't do justice to the quality and care put into the food at this excellent bistro/deli. The owner-chefs are possibly the hardest working couple in the province, making almost everything here—bread, pate, sausages, jams, take-away salads and full meals—from scratch. Many of the entree items are vacuum-sealed, so you can heat up a ratatouille or chicken cordon bleu to eat on-site or take it with you.

474/3 Moo 1 Nathai Rd., Ao Nang, Krabi, +6681-850-9766. [ctkbfelings.info](https://ctkbfelings.info)

#### Cafe8.98

Opened by the chef behind the popular Jenna's restaurant, this cafe is just what Ao Nang has long needed: a contemporary spot to get healthy food, fresh ingredients and a tasty take on basic Western dishes. All-day breakfast includes smoothie bowls, avocado toast and the enticing smoked salmon with passionfruit dressing. Excellent salads (such as pumpkin, feta and artichoke) are featured, along with to-die-for desserts (chocolate caramel mousse cake, coconut-mango panna cotta).

143/7-8, Moo 2, Ao Nang, Krabi, +6675-656-980. [cafe898.com](https://cafe898.com)



#### KRABI BITES

From fiery *goong pad kapi sataw* and aromatic *kua kling* to buttery, flaky roti, Krabi street food is big on flavor but light on your wallet. Head to **Nong Joke** for fearlessly spicy, rich and flavorful food, like comforting *gaeng som pla kapong yawd maprao*—spicy-sour turmeric soup with snapper and crisp coconut shoots. (50/3 Moo 7, Sai Thai Rd., +6675-611-639)

While the rest of Thailand eats *kanom jeen* for lunch, the south likes to kick off its mornings with the fiery noodle dish, and you should too at **Kanom Jeen Pa Tom**—a stall loved for its bold curries and crunchy fried chicken sold at jaw-dropping prices. (Krabi Rd., +6686-686-1243).

**Bangnara Roti & Coffee** draws crowds for its crispy-edged roti, rich beef and chicken curries, and stuffed roti murtabak. Grab a pulled milk tea or an intense milk coffee to round out the meal. (92/37 Luangpor Rd., +6682-802-0798)

Can't decide what to eat? Visit the **Chao Fah Night Market**. Set alongside the Chao Fah pier, this is the place to be if you have your sights set on eating—you'll find row after row of street food stalls serving up authentic local fare.



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PHRA NANG BEACH

- DO -

### Tree Top Adventure Park

Set in the jungle canopy in the shadows of Ao Luek's towering limestone cliffs, this family-friendly adventure park transforms the standard zipline experience with new innovations and activities. That means the option to ride a flying skateboard, traverse rope bridges and fly across the canopy on Tarzan swings. For the first time, the safety-certified park also includes a *via ferrata* (protected climbing route) up Krabi's renowned karst.

5/1 Moo 6, Ao Luek Noi, Ao Luek, Krabi, +6684-462-3443.  
[treetopadventurepark.com/krabi](http://treetopadventurepark.com/krabi)

### Hang Nak (Dragon Crest) Trail

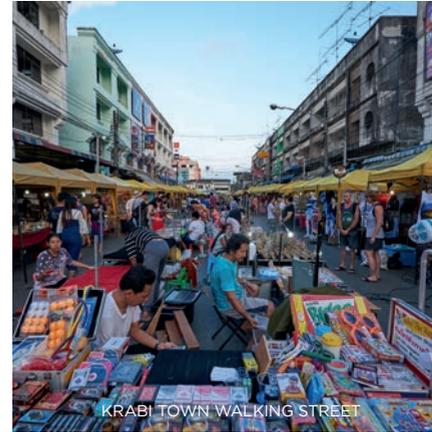
This sometimes-challenging two-and-a-half-hour hike up Hang Nak Hill (also known as Khao Ngon Nak) requires some prep work, but the payoff is worth it: awesome 360 views of the entire area, with limestone karsts jutting up across the sea and landscape. Start early—you should be hiking by 10am—bring plenty of water and good shoes, and make sure you've got plenty of juice on your phone for all the photo ops.

### Phra Nang Beach

A short ride by longtail from Ao Nang, Phra Nang is the perfect picturesque spot for swim and sun, offering white sand, clear water and limestone karst within swimming distance. Book a longtail from the beachfront ticket booth (on the corner where the main road turns onto the beachfront). In high season (Dec-Mar) there are usually boats at the beach selling drinks and snacks. BYO in the low season.

### Last Fisherman Beach Massage

Simple pleasures are sometimes best. Head to the pedestrian-only end of Ao Nang Beach and you'll find a cluster of open-air salas offering reasonably priced massage treatments. The sound of waves crashing enhances the relaxing experience, and you can end a perfect afternoon at next-door Last Fisherman restaurant. The food is basic beach Thai, but the drinks are cold and the setting and sunsets are gorgeous.



KRABI TOWN WALKING STREET

- SHOP -

### Chock Dee Handmade

This boutique along the Ao Nang waterfront presents a range of high-end silver and gold jewelry, all made by hand. Chock Dee stocks rings, bracelets, earrings, pendants and more—much of which is set with precious stones—and the shop can turn out custom orders in as little as a day. You may pay a bit more than at other jewelry shops, but the quality is second to none.

142 Moo 2, Ao Nang, Krabi, +6688-594-6915.  
[fb.com/chockdeehandmade](http://fb.com/chockdeehandmade)

### Krabi Town Walking Street

For a fun and funky dose of local culture, head to the night market in Krabi Town. Located a few city blocks behind the main business drag, Maharat Road, the market features local crafts, artists, a variety of clothing, food specialties, Thai knickknacks and the occasional music or dance performance. Open 6-9:30pm on Fridays and Saturdays. Good for inexpensive T-shirts, souvenirs and elephant pants. Also check out the boutiques surrounding the market area.



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# SAMUI

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There's a reason Koh Samui perennially remains at the top of the list of must-visit destinations in Thailand. The former hippie hangout has transformed into a paradise for all. Most travelers are attracted to the sugary white sands, but the beach is just the beginning. From spa retreats, rounds of golf and diving trips to nearby Angthong Marine Park to sunset cruises on catamarans off uber-tranquil Bophut Beach, Samui gives new meaning to the word indulgence.



## - EAT -

### Wild Tribe Cafe

The crew behind this bustling Lamai Street venue is on a mission to educate the world about nutritional plant-based diets. The peaceful cafe keeps things casual with simple decorations and bright open spaces. The smoothie bowls come with an array of toppings, and we highly recommend the sourdough French toast, with caramelized pineapple and creamy coconut sauce. Non-vegans, do not despair—there are meat options too, if you dare.

129/1 Moo 3, +667-796-2223.  
[wildtribecafe.com](http://wildtribecafe.com)

### Ritz Carlton

The Ritz offers a wealth of dining experiences, from breezy breakfast space, Shook!, to the street-food market-style Baan Talat. The View deals in fine dining with sweeping vistas over the island, while Sea Salt offers beachy vibes. To satisfy carnivorous cravings, swing by The Ranch steakhouse, or for private dining, book into Pak Tai. Two bars—Tides and One Rai—sling cocktails.

9/123, Plai Laem Beach,  
+6677-915-777.  
[ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/koh-samui](http://ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/koh-samui)

### Ko Seng

An island institution for authentic southern seafood, this venue recently opened new air-conditioned digs. Any visit should include coconut curry with giant chunks of fresh sea crab, as well as prawns stir-fried with shrimp paste and bitter beans. The classic southern antidote to spice is called *bai liang*—sour cooling leaves, stir-fried with egg. The *tom yam* is great too, and the portions are vast.

226/9 Moo 1 Soi Maenam 5, +6689-874-3516.

## HOT SPOTS

### SAMUI



#### Bang Po Seafood

Uncompromising spice, shrimp paste and sweet coconut milk are the backbones of this beachside shack with real history. The fried squid should top anyone's order, and the sea anemone is incredibly unique. There are also simple and fresh seafood dishes, like plump Thai oysters and grilled prawns. Sharing is how things are done, so bring friends. And again, be ready for (very) liberal use of seriously salty fermented shrimp paste.

Mae Nam, +6681-788-8936.

#### Vikasa Life Cafe

Off-duty yogis and health-conscious tourists gather here for breakfast, lunch and dinner, savoring raw food treats and incredible cliffside views over Samui's east coast. While tables poised at the balcony offer the best views, there are also slouchy beanbags for an afternoon in the shade. The two European chefs offer

probiotic superfood bowls, uncooked zucchini "spaghetti," falafel sandwiches, salmon burritos and vegetarian Mediterranean mezze platters.

211 Bontji Moo 4, +6677-422-232.  
[vikasayoga.com/the-place/life-cafe](http://vikasayoga.com/the-place/life-cafe)

#### Sweet Sisters Cafe Organic

This cafe and boutique sells refreshing drinks, health foods, baked treats and natural fabrics in a relaxing garden setting. The all-sorts-welcome, barefoot-friendly vibe complements a menu with highlights that include fresh granola and island fruits, fluffy pancakes with local honey, Thai and Burmese curries, and fruit shakes. Noi-y Suban (the founder and owner) makes a great vegetable bowl. Don't forget to pick up gifts to take back home, too.

4170 Tambol Na Mueang,  
+6686-470-8631.  
[fb.com/sweetsisters.cafe.samui](http://fb.com/sweetsisters.cafe.samui)

#### - STAY -

#### Avani Samui

Avani Samui recently unveiled an upscale escape in Samui's Phang Ka Bay area. Sleek, light gray interiors with vibrant splashes of blue feature in both the pool villas (68-227 sq meters) and the 42-sq-meter deluxe rooms with private balconies. To make the most of your stay, upgrade to one of the beachfront villas. Other facilities include a beachside restaurant, a cafe and a cocktail truck next to the pool.

53/5 Moo 4, Phang Ka, +6677-485-299.  
[avanihotels.com/en/samui](http://avanihotels.com/en/samui)

#### Lub D

Though best known for its hostel on Chaweng beach, Lub D has now expanded into hotels. Though the social vibe remains, the deluxe rooms offer greater privacy. Decked out in jazzy, tropical themes, all rooms come with a balcony, swing chairs and an outside table. The hotel also features a swim-up pool bar with a floating DJ booth, a gaming area, cabanas, and a beachfront bar and restaurant.

159/88 Moo 2 Chaweng Beach, +6677-230-326.  
[lubd.com/samui](http://lubd.com/samui)



#### LAMAI FRESH MARKET

Totally local and totally friendly, this go-to spot for authentic southern street food sees rows of independent vendors man booths while Samui natives do their daily shopping. There are amazing tropical fruits, abundant seafood, bushels of green vegetables, bright-colored curries, roasted corn, fresh pancakes and even cocktail stands.

For a delicious on-the-go snack, try the *hor mok talay*—curried coconut cake seafood steamed in a banana leaf. Lamai Market also has some of the island's most-delicious *som tam*. Fortune favors the brave, so go in with an open mind and an empty stomach. Also be forewarned: seating can be sparse in some parts of the market.

## HOT SPOTS

### SAMUI



- DO -

#### Koh Fit Thailand

The island's beachside home for Cross-Fit, HIIT and other trendy workouts, this friendly and inviting, indoor-outdoor gym also offers space to throw around weights and hit the beach nearby for sand runs. Affordable drop-in weights are a blessing for anyone wanting to work off extra holiday calories, but intense transformation packages are also available, and coaches lead beach circuit training and endurance hikes through Samui's jungle hillside interior. 79/30 Moo 6, Maret, +6688-665-1568. [kohfitthailand.com](http://kohfitthailand.com)

#### SamuiBins

Help save Samui from single-use plastic at this upcycling workshop. Expat Donna Reiss is the energetic host of two-hour lessons in decorating community bins. Donna's colorful creations are helping to save Samui's beaches from both the tide of litter generated by tourism and an overarching attitude that has not always put environment first. Take an afternoon to help keep Samui clean for future generations. [fb.com/samuitrashbins](http://fb.com/samuitrashbins)

#### Froggy Sea Breeze

The Banyan Tree's beach lawn venue features an open central seating area

surrounded by neon-lined palm trees on a secluded beachfront. But it's the vintage tuk tuk—a proper three-wheeler that's at least 50 years old—that has been turned into the main bar that steals the show. Start with the sweet and sour Froggy Melon cocktail before going all in with the gin and absinthe Botanical. 99/9 Moo 4, Maret. [banyantree.com/en/thailand/samui/dining/beach-bar](http://banyantree.com/en/thailand/samui/dining/beach-bar)

#### Woo Bar

Some of the island's best sundowners are found at W Koh Samui. You'll be battling selfie-taking tourists for the best seats, but this is still the place to be for iconic views of blue turquoise and green palm treetop horizons. The cocktails are quite renowned, and they're probably best enjoyed at one of the tables set into the resort's showpiece infinity pool. Toast the setting sun, and return for a bubbly brunch. 4/1 Moo Tambon Maenam, +6677-915-999

#### International Muay Thai Stadium

This isn't a new venue by any means, but this classic piece of local culture is still the place to be on fight nights, held Thursday and Sunday from 9pm till late. The stadium has seats on three levels—general, ringside and VIP. Sit ringside to catch the action close-up, or upgrade to VIP for sofas. Fight nights typically

feature six bouts, pairing men and women fighters from around the world.

3/ 2 Leam-din Rd., Chaweng Beach, +6690-951-4653. [samuithaiboxing.com](http://samuithaiboxing.com)

#### Santiburi Golf Course

This stunning hillside course cuts through a coconut plantation. The setting couldn't be more beautiful, with sunlight poking through the canopy and views stretching to Koh Phangan. It's a world class facility, too—the 18-hole championship golf course has been a PGA Asian Tour staple for years. It's a true slice of heaven on Samui's north coast. And don't worry about shanks—a swing doctor is available, too.

[santiburigolfsamui.com](http://santiburigolfsamui.com)



- SHOP -

#### Samui Health Shop

This small chain of health shops stocks its shelves with natural and organic products, many of which are made in Thailand. Chia seeds, plant-based proteins, kombucha, all-natural cleaning supplies—the Samui Health Shop has it all. There's a selection of indigo-dyed fabrics from rural Thailand as well, and don't miss the cafe next door, where you can fuel up on healthy dishes and organic coffee before hitting the beach.

130/1 M.4 Maret, +6696-634-8752. [fb.com/samuihealthshop](http://fb.com/samuihealthshop)



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T. 077 413 483-6 F. 077 413 487 W. [bananafansea.com](http://bananafansea.com)

@bananafansea  bananafanseasamui

## HOT SPOTS BEYOND



### - PHETCHABUN -

#### The Campville

Khao Kho's latest glamping spot is a doozy, offering 63 safari tents with sizable mattresses capable of accommodating either two or four guests. There's no AC, mind you, but temperatures dip low during the night, and in winter it can get downright cold. Every evening, a communal field hosts live music and grill-your-own BBQ dinners with gorgeous views of the surrounding hills and twinkling lights overhead.

+6692-536-4271 [fb.com/thacampvillekhaokho](http://fb.com/thacampvillekhaokho)

### - AYYUTHAYA -

#### Prang View Cafe

Beautiful as Ayutthaya is, touring the capital in the beating sun is no walk in the park. Enter the white-washed, air-conditioned Prang View Café; situated conveniently in front of two of Ayutthaya's most famous temples (Wat Ratchaburana and Wat Mahathat). The views through the airy floor-to-ceiling windows are stunning, and the baristas can even draw prangs in coffee cream on top of your drink.

22/13 Naresuan Road, +6689-801-0138.  
[fb.com/Prangviewcafe](http://fb.com/Prangviewcafe)

### - KORAT -

#### Te Mata Glamping

Te Mata Glamping is located three-plus hours from Bangkok, in Ban Tha Maprang. It's just one large structure, but it is exquisite; like a rustic condo on raised pillars, surrounded by 3,200 sq-meters of green. It can accommo-

date seven (easily) and is fitted with TVs, sofas, a hotel bathroom and a large terrace. Explore the grounds on an ATV, or just relax with a la carte breakfast delivered to your door.

97 Moo 6 Amphoe Parkchong,  
+662-309-3659. [temataglampring.com](http://temataglampring.com)

### - RATCHABURI -

#### Khum Dam Noen

Set amidst tropical fields and orchards, Khum Dam Noen offers teakwood cottage villas with thatched roofs, earth tone interiors, heavy wood accents and warm light. The vast Jacuzzi Villa includes a living room, a regal claw-foot bathtub, and an outdoor Jacuzzi. There's also an onsite cafe, or for a romantic evening meal, head to the resort's pond-side restaurant with over-water rattan seating pods.

50/1 M. 7 Damnoen Saduak,  
+6632-241-444. [khumdamnoen.com](http://khumdamnoen.com)

### - KHAO YAI -

#### Isaan Isan Boutique Resort

Located in verdant green fields just outside Pak Chong, Isaan Isan will instantly transport you to Thailand's northeast with elegant blond wood, bamboo furnishings and chic rough concrete walls. Each of the 69 units comes with an outdoor balcony, rain shower and 40-inch TV. The onsite restaurant dishes up *som tam* and classic soul food, and the resort's wellness center offers massages and beauty packages.

54 Moo 17 Moosi, +6644-011-888.  
[fb.com/isaanandacura](http://fb.com/isaanandacura)

#### Casa de Montana

Uluwatu isn't the only destination with a plastic-encased hotel room anymore, thanks to the "bubble igloo" hotel at Casa de Montana. The bubble room isn't an afterthought, either. Inside you'll find a curtained-off four-post bed, a plush armchair, a 49-inch TV and a full bathroom, complete with shower and Jacuzzi tub. Enjoy stary nights from the comfort of your own bed, or opt for the resort's more "traditional" camper van rooms.

Casa de Montana at Khao Yai, 168 Village No. 3, Baan Thamaprang Village, Thanarat Rd., Pak Chong, +6688 353 2929.  
[casa-de-montana.com](http://casa-de-montana.com)

### - NAKHON PATHOM -

#### Suk Kin Dai

This farm-slash-restaurant near Mahidol University offers wholesome meals made from fresh produce. The interior is bright and atmospheric with high ceilings, dangling ferns, wooden furnishings and modern-rustic naked concrete. Adjacent is a greenhouse, home to salad leaves to come. Produce can also be purchased for takeaway. The menu charts Thai classics, western fusion, desserts and drinks. *Suk kin dai*, for the record, means "eat fresh."

Hmu 5 5/6 Khlong Yong, Phutthamonthon.  
+6662-323-9619. [fb.com/sukkindai2018](http://fb.com/sukkindai2018)



### - KANCHANABURI -

#### Frida Friday Boutique Hotel

With lush green surrounds, mountain views and mazes of archways, Frida Friday is exotic and exquisite. It's a striking sight, like a miniature castle washed head-to-toe in chalky sky blue. It takes its inspiration from Frida Kahlo's Blue House in Mexico City, and calls to mind Morocco's Chefchaouen blue city. The rooms are all white, though and set with chic minimalist furnishings, and Kahlo print cushions.

152 Moo 2 Nong Bua, +6662-625-6456.  
[fb.com/fridafridayboutiquehotel](http://fb.com/fridafridayboutiquehotel)

# Dusit Thani

KRABI BEACH RESORT



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The resort's facilities include a tempting selection of restaurants and bars, the biggest and best equipped DFIT Fitness Centre in Krabi, a relaxing, restorative luxury spa and two inviting, tropical beachfront pools.



   @DusitKrabi  
Email : [dtkr@dusit.com](mailto:dtkr@dusit.com)

### Dusit Thani Krabi Beach Resort

155 Moo 2, Nong Thale, Muang, Krabi 81180, Thailand  
Tel: +66 (0) 7562 8000, Fax: +66 (0) 7562 8028

## HOT SPOTS BEYOND



### Khob Ang Cafe

Perched on a hill 200 meters above the Srinakarin dam, Khob Ang Cafe may not be fancy, but it sure offers a great place to get away. Just two hours from Bangkok, the simple venue has a fairy-lit porch offering stunning views over green mountains, water and flowers. It also doubles as a homestay with minimalist, no-frills rooms. Quench your thirst with a refreshing glass of honey and lime soda with butterfly pea syrup, or recharge with a Blue Latte, made with butterfly pea milk and espresso. Chinese steamed buns and dim sum dominate the menu.

[fb.com/khobangcafe](https://www.facebook.com/khobangcafe)

### - SARABURI -

### Lom Bon Fook

Lom Bon Fook translates (loosely) to “falling on the mattress” and guests are encouraged to hang loose and simply enjoy doing nothing. So don’t be surprised to see people crashing out on comfy mats all over the riverside deck, where a huge tree provides plenty of shade. Relax with a signature toddy palm tea and crumb cake, and if the terrace is packed, take your mats out into the surrounding gardens.

7/1 Pichay Roan Roang Soi 22 Tambon Pak Preayaw, +6694-181-0212.  
[fb.com/lombonfook](https://www.facebook.com/lombonfook)

### - SUKHOThAI -

### Sukhothai Treasure Resort

This beautiful, contemporary resort and spa lies amidst vast rice fields, just a few km from Sukhothai Historical Park. The resort includes an organic farm (its

produce is put to good use by the restaurant) and is powered by solar panels. The spacious 30-92 sq-meter rooms are contemporary minimalist with white-washed walls. There’s also an in-house spa for massages after long days exploring Thai culture’s spiritual birthplace.

18/2 Moo 4 Jarodwithithong Rd, T. Bankluay, +6655-611-555.  
[sukhothaitreasure.com](http://sukhothaitreasure.com)

### Banhom Kliendin

Traipse along a raised boardwalk through a field of yellow Sesbanias to reach the windmill-style woodland eatery Banhom Kliendin. On the porch out back, you can dip your toes in a cool running stream and slurp Sukhothai *bam-ee* noodles, with pork *tom yum* and juicy braised duck—for as little as B15/ bowl. The dessert menu changes daily, but you can always be sure there’ll be plenty of cake.

[fb.com/Banhomkliendin](https://www.facebook.com/Banhomkliendin)



### Sweet Rice Cafe

Equally scenic, Sweet Rice Cafe sits amidst English country-style gardens. The two-story wooden restaurant is decorated with white and pink walls, dangling plants and colorful floral cushions—with a glass house extension augmenting the garden feel. The menu offers classic Thai dishes, as well as a high tea set, featuring tea, cakes of the day and selected Thai desserts.

91/4 Moo 2 Muangkao, +6681-377-2071.

### Khanom Chin Ban Na

The rice noodle *ka nom jeen* at Khanom Chin Ban Na is not to be missed. Conveniently located on the way to Sukhothai Historical Park, the noodles here are infused with different flavors and

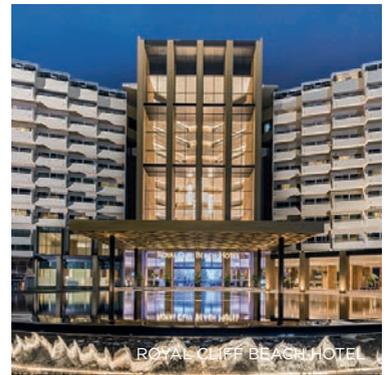
colors—including butterfly pea, carrot and pumpkin—and served as a set along with soups served in clay pots.

16/39 Jarod Vitithong Rd., +6655-633-274.

### Mai Krang Krung

For something fancier, hit up Mai Krang Krung, where brightly colored walls hung with vibrant local fabrics meet dark wood furnishings for an ultra-Thai vibe. The menu is filled with comforting central-northern food, like *kao kluk kapi* (shrimp paste rice) and steamed dumplings with creamy coconut sauce.

139 Jarod Vitithong Rd., +6655-621-882.



### - PATTAYA -

### Royal Cliff Beach Hotel

Before Ritz-Carlton and St. Regis, Thailand had the Royal Cliff Beach Hotel. Pattaya’s grand dame of the hi-social circuit has been welcoming big-haired ladies for weekends on the coast since the ‘70s. They come for incredible peninsula views, a private beach and swimming pools that would look at home in a Slim Aarons photo. Now, the 474-room resort has given itself the biggest makeover in years. Fortunately, the charm of the wood-and-bronze classic interior has not been lost in the renovation. New additions include spacious marble bathrooms, IPTV, warm lighting and cozy purple sofas.

353 Phra Tamnak, +6638-250-421.  
[royalcliff.com](http://royalcliff.com)



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## HOT SPOTS ESSENTIALS



### INTERCONTINENTAL PHUKET

If you're looking for an idyllic island escape with breathtaking sunset views, Intercontinental Phuket is the place to be. The resort's 221 rooms and villas come in rich earthy tones, elegantly fusing traditional Thai and contemporary designs. Discover local recipes reimaged at Jaras modern Thai restaurant, boasting sustainable farm-to-table cuisine. Come evening, relax to cool beats with cocktails at Pine beach bar.

333 Moo 3, Kamala Beach ,  
+6676-629-999. <https://bit.ly/2kDVFai>



### HOLIDAY INN VANA NAVA HUA HIN

Aside from unlimited access to the onsite water park, the hotel is perfect for your vacation due to its Vana Nava Sky —the rooftop bar overlooking the Hua Hin skyline, with creative cocktails developed by world renowned mixologist Joseph Boroski. Yearning for a real bird's-eye view? take a walk on the glass bottomed sky deck that offers sea view and afar scenic of Hua Hin city.

129/129 Petchkasem Rd., Nong  
Gae, +6632-809-999.  
[www.vananavasky.com](http://www.vananavasky.com)



### HUA HIN MARRIOTT RESORT & SPA

Set directly on the beach, this low-rise resort is a tropical paradise and a haven of gastronomy. The lush landscaped gardens feature five separate pools, including one that loops around the resort. There are also five restaurants and bars. Big Fish & Bar, the multi-award-winning beachfront grill, is where chefs use local and seasonal ingredients to create innovative and contemporary dishes, overlooking the sea.

107/1 Phetkasem Road, Hua Hin,  
Prachuap Khiri Khan  
+66 (32) 904 666  
[www.huahinmarriott.com](http://www.huahinmarriott.com)



### PHUKET MARRIOTT RESORT AND SPA, NAI YANG BEACH

Nestled on Nai Yang Beach in a secluded corner of Phuket, this resort is where dream weddings become a reality. An in-house team of wedding experts is on hand to create beautiful bespoke occasions. Guests have a choice of rooms, suites and beachfront pool villas, all of which feature contemporary design and spacious bathrooms, creating an ideal setting for honeymoons.

92, 92/1 Moo 3, Tambol Sakoo,  
Amphur Talang,  
Phuket +66 (76) 625 555  
[www.phuketmarriottnaiyang.com](http://www.phuketmarriottnaiyang.com)



### HYATT REGENCY HUAHIN

Located among beautiful beaches at Kao Takiab, Hyatt Regency Hua Hin offers newly-redecorated modern rooms with some Thai touches. Opt for the deluxe pool access room where locate few steps away from swimming pool and giant water slide—making it comfortable to dip yourself in water any time of the day. The hotel's Barai Spa is also a good choice to get the extremely relaxing experience.

91 Kao Takiab Rd., Hua Hin,  
+6632-521-234.  
[www.hyattregencyhuahin.com](http://www.hyattregencyhuahin.com)



### KATA ROCKS

Well known for being the host of Thailand's Annual Superyacht Rendezvous, Kata Rocks is a luxury villa-only resort located on the oceanfront of Kata Beach. Step inside the Mediterranean-inspired venue, with its pristine white walls and sleek architecture, where you can relax in your own private pool or enjoy rejuvenating spa treatments, outstanding cuisine and more. Modern and elegant, Kata Rocks is the ultimate Phuket destination.

186/22, Kok Tanode Rd., Phuket,  
+6676-370-777. [www.katarocks.com](http://www.katarocks.com)



### PULLMAN PATTAYA HOTEL G

Located along the restful Wongamart beach, Pullman Pattaya Hotel G offers stylish rooms and suites from contemporary Thai to cutting-edge design suited for every lifestyle. Facilities ranging from Aisawan Spa offering relaxing treatment to fulfill your body and soul, fitness center, two large ocean-facing swimming pools, and beach club with view overlooking the sea, to beach club restaurant serving international cuisines—all making for a proper getaway sanctuary.

445/3 Pattaya-Naklua Rd. Soi 16,  
+6638-411-940. [www.pullmanpattayaahotelg.com](http://www.pullmanpattayaahotelg.com)



### SO/ BANGKOK

A swank 30-floor hotel with 237 rooms; located just opposite Lumpini Park. SO/ BANGKOK's themed accommodation created around the Five Elements – Water, Earth, Wood, Metal and Fire – is an inspiring and innovative masterpiece of Thailand's top five interior designers and world renowned fashion designer Monsieur Christian Lacroix. Each guestroom provides Technology for Lifestyle, featuring ZAFIRO IPTV.

2 North Sathron, Bangrak.,  
+662-624-0000.  
[www.so-sofitel-bangkok.com/](http://www.so-sofitel-bangkok.com/)

## HOT SPOTS ESSENTIALS



### SO SOFTEL HUA HIN

SO Sofitel Hua Hin offers 109 stylish rooms and private pool villas. Challenge your friends to Wibit floating in Signature Pool. Experience a range of gastronomic journeys at 4 outlets: an authentic Thai restaurant, rooftop bar, beachside restaurant with Western delicacy and a poolside snack bar. Enjoy a magical journey at SO Wonderland 18-hole themed mini-golf and energetic sport facilities: bicycle tracks, tennis courts and more.

115 Moo 7, Tambol Bangkiao, Amphur Cha-Am, Phetchaburi  
032-709-555 [www.so-sofitel-hua-hin.com](http://www.so-sofitel-hua-hin.com)



### THANYAPURA HEALTH & SPORTS RESORT

Located next to a national forest and just 20 minutes away from Phuket International airport, Thanyapura is one of Asia's premium healthy holiday destinations. Visitors will get to enjoy scenic views as well as healthy lifestyles through the hotel's fine sports programs—designed to improve your performance and develop your skills—along with wellness programs focusing on lifestyle balance.

120/1 Thepkasattri Rd., Thalang,  
+6676-336-000. [www.thanyapura.com](http://www.thanyapura.com)



### VALA HUA HIN

Located in the Regent Beach compound, this new boutique resort (opening in mid-2020) offers great experiences for those seeking a peaceful getaway in natural spaces. The massive infinity swimming pool goes right up to the ocean. Room options include expansive deluxe rooms, with organic palette furnishings, and beachfront pool villas with direct ocean views. There is also an on-site organic farm to keep the healthy meals coming.

849/21 Petchkasem Rd.,  
[www.valahuahin.com](http://www.valahuahin.com)



### ESCAPE HUAHIN

Inspired by a fishermen's village, Escape Hua Hin boasts cozy and peaceful surroundings in a serene setting close to the beach. This is also the home of Red Coral restaurant, where you can experience dishes made using fresh seafood and hand-picked ingredients. Spoil yourself with seafood dishes and signature cocktails like the refreshing Red Coral and Escape Delight—served with fresh strawberries and pineapple.

25/2 Petchkasem Rd., Hua Hin,  
+6663-187-0777.  
[www.escape-hotel.com/huahin](http://www.escape-hotel.com/huahin)



### AMARI PATTAYA

Located on the northern end of Pattaya Bay, Amari Pattaya re-opens after a spectacular transformation. The hotel offers guests two distinct options—the all-new Amari Suites, perfect for family gatherings, and beautiful Amari Tower with spacious entry-level rooms. Guests will also find the signature Amaya Food Gallery, refreshing treatments at Breeze Spa and the 24-hour fitness center. It's a bundle of fun for the kids, too, thanks to the Treehouse Kid's Club and best-in-class water slides.

240 Pattaya Beach Rd., Banglamung,  
+6638-418-418. [www.amari.com/pattaya](http://www.amari.com/pattaya)



### DREAM HOTEL BANGKOK

A 5-star boutique hotel with a modern design in the heart of Sukhumvit. It looks lively and boasts an alluring lobby with a small mosaic pagoda and lion sculptures. A blend of Asian vibes and contemporary styles are featured throughout. Facilities include a rooftop pool with views overlooking the neighborhood, a fitness center, a spa offering skin treatments and massages, and nightlife options like a Thai and international restaurant, and a bar with live DJs.

10 Sukhumvit soi 15, Sukhumvit Rd.,  
+662-254-8500. [www.dreamhotels.com/bangkok](http://www.dreamhotels.com/bangkok)



### LE MÉRIDIEN SUVARNBHUMI BANGKOK

This is a perfect place to stay while exploring Bangkok's intoxicating nightlife and rich culture, as it nestled close to Suvarnabhumi International Airport and presides over the Summit Windmill—a golf course with rolling hills and large landscape. Enjoyment can also be found from the Explore Spa with treatments from professional therapists, saltwater infinity pool, and a restaurant serving Italian fare.

789 Bangna-Trad Rd., +662-118-7777. [www.limeridiensuvarnabhumi.com](http://www.limeridiensuvarnabhumi.com)



### ANGSANA LAGUNA PHUKET

Visit this hotel set along the northwest shore of Phuket's Bang Tao Bay to appreciate pristine beaches with white sand and clear water, as well as the hotel's 323 m. free-form pool that is always a joy to dip in. You can also opt for a massage from the Angsana Spa for some ultimate relaxation, or try something more exciting like water sports activities. Angsana Laguna is located near the local favorite Boat Avenue Night Market.

10 Talang, Phuket / 076358500  
[www.angsana.com/thailand/laguna-phuket](http://www.angsana.com/thailand/laguna-phuket)

## HOT SPOTS ESSENTIALS



### TWINPALMS HOTELS & RESORTS

With boutique hotels on two beaches on Phuket's scenic coast, Twinpalms Hotels & Resorts gives you the rare opportunity to stay at the Twinpalms Phuket on Surin Beach for a few days and follow that up with a night at Kamala Beach's Twinpalms Montazure. Rooms come in two options: sleek suites and penthouses with private pools.

Reservation: 076 316500  
www.twinpalmshotelsresorts.com



### DUSIT THANI KRABI BEACH RESORT

Dusit Thani Krabi Beach Resort has recently launched an innovative program of holistic "Fitness & Wellness Retreats" supported by its DFIT Fitness Center and Linger Longer Spa. A variety of tailor-made retreats, that have been developed by talented professional practitioners in their fields of expertise, are designed to improve your life through fitness, wellness and by touching mind, body and soul.

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www.dusithanikrabi.com

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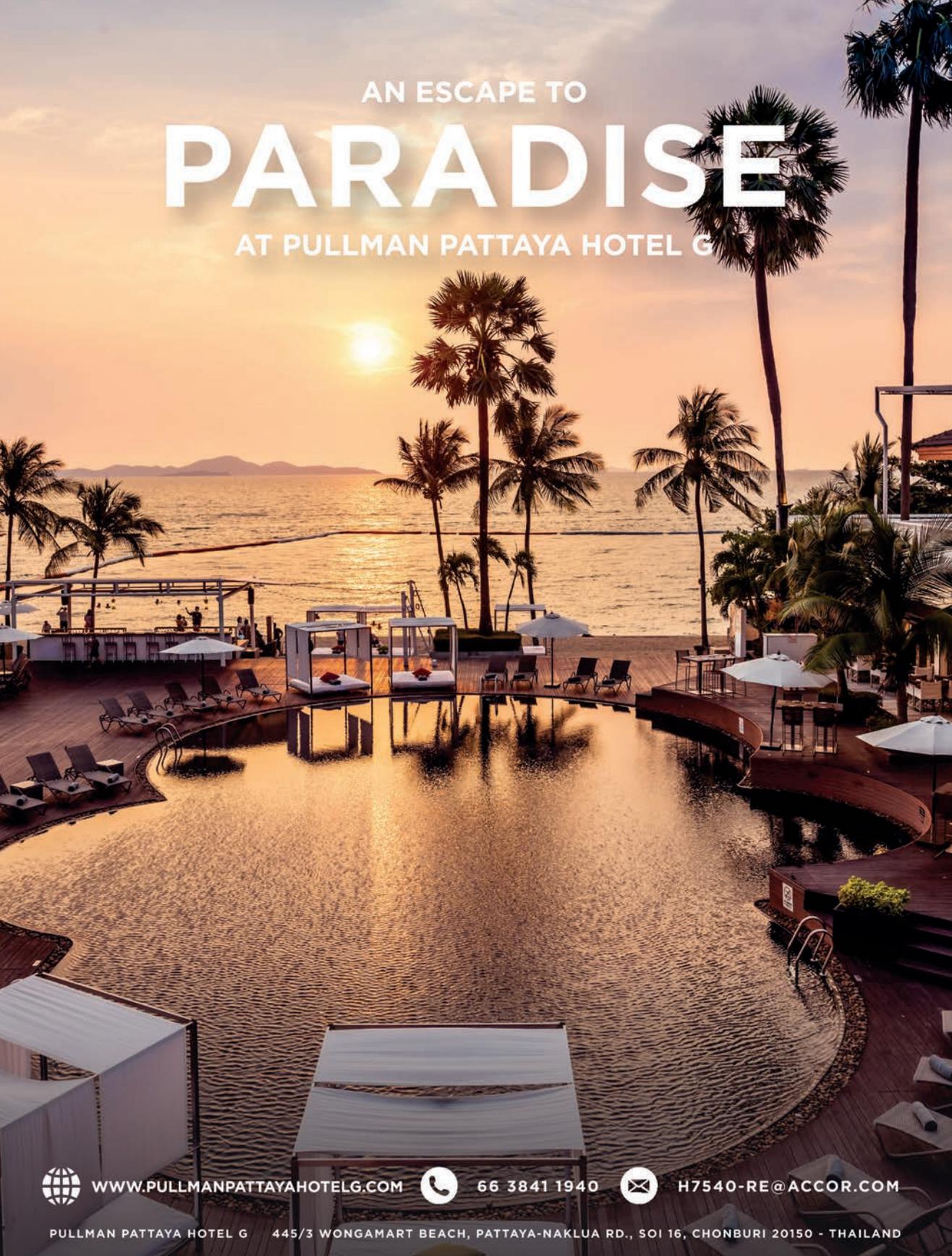
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