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Asia's  
Best Golf Tour  
Operator



Thailand's  
Best Inbound Golf  
Tour Operator



Vietnam's  
Best Inbound Golf  
Tour Operator

## December 2017 Edition

Dear Golf Travelers,



Welcome to this issue of the Asian Golf Nation, the source for news breaking information about golf in Asia. Also, unique golf playing tips for Indochina's tropical environment, announcements of golf travel promotions, and our latest subscription offer are all integral parts of today's newsletter.

December marks the last 2017 issue of the Asian Golf Nation. It is amazing how time flies. We started the year with global economic uncertainty. As it turned out, not much happened in 2017. In fact, as we finish 2017 we find ourselves amidst the busiest times we have seen Asian golf travel.

Last month I was an invited speaker at the Asia Pacific Golf Summit in Danang. The attendees, the whos-who in Asian golf, all concluded that golf tourism is one of the top drivers for course development and accounts for as much as 50% of a golf course's revenue. Finally, 'golf tourists deserved recognition' is well-acknowledged at all of the premium courses around the region. Expect the already excellent service and top-ranked courses to get even better!

Speaking of service, as [Asia's top inbound golf operator](#) we often get asked why do business with a golf operator when tee times are can be easily booked piecemeal online through 3rd party booking sites or even golf clubs themselves. The short answer is full-service golf operators provide golfers with services and products centered around authentic golf experiences and far beyond 18 holes. In our case, the potential audience and our existing clients recognize Golfasian for

our quick responsiveness, impeccable attention to detail, specialized up-to-date golf knowledge, luxury transportation and precision routing, and tremendous leadership, especially when things can and often go wrong during any planned trip. These business characteristics oversee the company's mission craft meaningful golf experiences and create golfing memories that surpass golf travelers' expectations. We take full responsibility regarding the success of each end every trip detail and do so at competitive prices. In other words, we go far beyond what an online tee time seller does and provide all of this service at no additional cost. Now that's a tough act to beat!















As the year-end holidays are knocking and warm sunny skies drench in most parts of South East Asia, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your strong support this past year, and the entire Golfasian team and I look forward to continuing to fulfill your Asian golf tour dreams in 2018. Happy New Year!

The golf, culture, and exotic beauty of Asia are perfectly suited for unforgettable golf experiences. Whether it be playing in organized golf tournaments or casually golfing with friends at world-class courses, you are guaranteed to meet friendly locals, experience the world's best cuisines, exotic cultures, fascinating entertainment, and day spas. Best of all everything on offer is at great prices. Itineraries created for your specific travel preferences, expectations, group size, and budgets are our specialty; contact us for a **competitive quote**.

Until the next newsletter, happy golfing and I hope to see you in Asia very soon!

*Mark Siegel*  
*Managing Director of Golfasian*


### In This Issue:

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## GOLF NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

 **Pattaya, Thailand**



CHEE CHAN GOLF RESORT

The construction at **Chee Chan Golf Resort** is progressing well. 17 fairways are turfed or sprigged. 11 greens are completed and maintained daily. The tee boxes are growing in nicely, and work has started on the landscaping to tie the tee surrounds and extensive bunker facing, which is a course highlight. A Q1, 2018 opening is achievable, and after that Chee Chan will be a welcome addition to the premium golf courses on offer around Pattaya.

The course location overlooking the famed Khao Chee Chan Buddha and providing 360 panoramic views of the nearby resort cities of Pattaya and Jomtien is ideal. The rolling hills land and the pristine surrounding environment will be an ideal setting for the newest Pattaya course.



**Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam**



HARMONIE GOLF PARK

**Harmonie Golf Park** is an 18 hole Jim Engh designed course outside of Ho Chi Minh City and near to Twin Doves Golf Club. Earthworks and grassing for 18 holes completed earlier in the year. Most of the course facilities are operational, and the operator expects a March 2018 opening.



**Danang, Vietnam**



HOIANA CITY

Vegas-style golf tourism is coming to Danang with a massive integrated resort project. Located south of Danang, Hoiana City, when opened in 2019, will be Vietnam's largest golf and gaming resort. Earthworks and grass growing area in the countries first Robert Trent Jones golf course is set-up. Two casinos, luxury hotels, and areas packed with bars and restaurants will be adjacent to the golf club.

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**CENTARA**  
World Masters Golf Championship  
Hua Hin, Thailand  
10 - 16 June 2018

USD 30,000  
in prizes to be won!

Register Now!

It's not just a  
**Golf Tournament...**  
**It's a week of FUN!**  
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Amateur Golfers Aged 35 and Over

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www.thailandworldmasters.com

**Golf & Culture**  
**Hosted Tours™**

**NEW**

Golfasian has put together a series of **Golf & Culture Hosted Tours™** in South East Asia. These tours provide an extremely personal and in-depth experience into Southeast Asia's cultural and golf travel offerings.

Our Golf & Culture Hosted Tours™ combine luxury travel, world-class golf, picturesque scenery, exotic cuisine, and magical experiences to be remembered forever and are inclusive of all accommodations with breakfast plus ground transportation, green fees, carts, caddies and all domestic flights. Delicious lunches and dinners served as noted in the itinerary.

Places are limited, so only a lucky 20 persons will have this opportunity of a lifetime to experience the golf and culture of Southeast Asia through the eyes and ears of a local.

[View our fully hosted tours online.](#)



**ASIA GOLF WEEK**



We have finished our last tournament of the year in Chiang Mai with a record 124 people attending, we now shift our focus to the first event of the year in Hua Hin and the Amari Golf week starting 11-17 March. This week's schedule includes 6 nights and 4 rounds with caddy and cart at the best courses in Hua Hin including Black Mountain and Banyan. Prices start from THB 47,500 per person. [Sign up before 1st Jan and receive a free room night OR room upgrade.](#)

For those looking for extra golf, we have an event following straight after in Pattaya, playing 4 rounds, with 3 of these at all the golf courses at Siam Country Club and 6 nights' accommodation at the 5 star [Avani Pattaya Resort and Spa](#). The event attracted 100 players last year and we are adding the more rooms to accommodate some players that missed out in tournament positions last year. [Register for the Pattaya event here.](#)

Early bird bookings of the free room upgrade is still available for the Vietnam event in Danang starting 15th April 2018. [Full details here.](#)

Should you have any questions about our group tours please contact us [tournaments@asiagolfweek.com](mailto:tournaments@asiagolfweek.com)



## GOLF TRAVEL TESTIMONIALS



*Just wanted to say thanks to Golfasian and Paul Tudor and the team in looking after the 13 of us whilst on tour in Chiang Mai, Hua Hin and Pattaya. Everything ran like clockwork and we all had a brilliant time. See you next year*

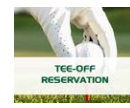
*Graham R.  
Australia, November*

[\[Read more golfer testimonials online\]](#)





## GOLF LESSONS IN THAILAND



### DESTINATION REVIEW

#### Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Royal Palace, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Ten years ago, you might have thought about an incidental round of golf in Cambodia while taking in the rich cultural attractions of ancient Khmer civilizations, but you wouldn't have thought of booking a golf holiday there.

Now that has all changed. In recent years, Cambodia has truly come into its own among SE Asia golf holiday destinations.

Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, boasts 4 golf courses. Although the main attraction are sightseeing, shopping, and enjoying the many colonial-styled hotels, boutiques, and boulevards, golf is an ever increasing reason to visit the Cambodian

capital with Garden City Golf Club being the main draw.



-----View our [Phnom Penh Golf Packages](#) | [Phnom Penh Golf Courses](#)

### FEATURED GOLF COURSE



**Grand Phnom Penh Golf Club** is a private members club and part of the Grand Phnom Penh International City. The golf course is located 20 minutes northwest of Phnom Penh and on the way to the airport. With little development away from the city, the air and climate tend to be fresher and well-suited for golf.

Grand Phnom Penh Golf Club is designed by Jack Nicklaus. The 7,914 yard course is one of the best maintained in Phnom Penh with immaculate fairways and manicured undulated greens. The fairways are very wide, but significant earth-moving and mounding are featured around all the greens. The course is also relatively exposed, so wind, especially late in the day, can play havoc on a good score.

[\[Read more about one of Cambodia's Best Golf Courses\]](#)

### FEATURED HOTEL



The **Sofitel Phnom Penh Phokeethra** overlooks the magnificent Mekong River. This luxury Phnom Penh hotel welcomes golfers looking for superior accommodation and convenience. The 12 story colonial-style hotel is close to key attractions including local markets, shopping, and entertainment areas. There are 4 on-site restaurants featuring international and Asian cuisines. After golf, guests can relax at any of the hotels 3 bars with an extensive drinks list and snacks. Sofitel Phnom Penh Phokeethra Hotel is an excellent choice for Cambodia golfers.

[\[Read more about one of Cambodia's Best Hotels\]](#)

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**GOLF TRIP IDEA**

**Best of Cambodia Golf Package - 9 Days**



Be one of the first to explore one of golf's best up-and-coming destinations. Visit the Cambodian capital of **Phnom Penh** and site of the Angkor temples; **Siem Reap**. Golf at the top golf courses in location and in between learn about and experience the ancient Khmer sights and culture. Experience this once-in-a-lifetime exotic golf package with all of the comforts!

View the [complete golf holiday itinerary](#).

To meet your preferences and budget [please contact us for further information](#).



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## PRESS RELEASE

### Golfasian Bags Triple Whammy of Honors At World Golf Awards





BANGKOK, Thailand (November 26, 2017) – GOLFASIAN has continued its hot streak at the World Golf Awards, picking up top honors in three categories at the 2017 event.

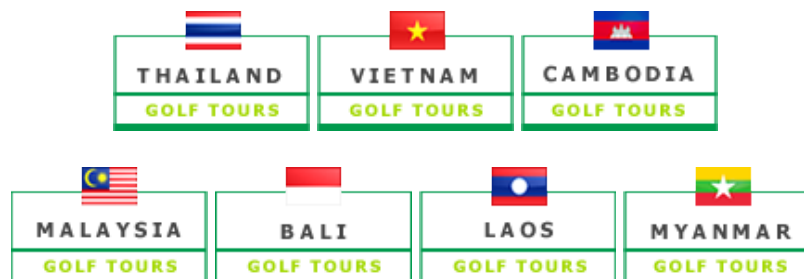
The company, Asia's largest golf tour operator, was one of the big winners at the gala ceremony, held this year at the La Manga Club in southern Spain.

Golfasian was named Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator 2017 for Vietnam and Thailand, titles it has held now for four consecutive years. The operator was also named as Asia's Best Golf Tour Operator 2017, a garland that reaffirms its status as one of the region's most respected names in golf tourism.

[Read the complete Press Release.](#)

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## GOLF TOURS



## GOLF COURSES



## GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE & CLOSURES

### Thailand

#### Bangkok

**Alpine Golf and Sports Club:** Course will be closed on 12 & 21 December for tournaments.

**Bangkok Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 20 December for tournaments.

**Cascata Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 25 December for tournaments.

**Riverdale Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 8, 10, 15, 18, 22, 25 & 29 December for tournaments.

**Suwan Golf & Country Club:** Course will be closed on 8-10, 15-16 & 20 December for tournaments.

**Thai Country Club:** Course will be closed during 15-16 December for a tournament.

#### Hua Hin

**Banyan Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 8 December for a tournament.

**Lake View Resort & Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 13-17 December for tournaments.

**Royal Hua Hin Golf Course:** Course will be closed on 16 December for tournaments.

#### Pattaya

**Khao Kheow Country Club:** Course will be closed on 27-28 December for tournaments.

**Laem Chabang International Country Club:** Course will be closed on 9-11 December for tournaments.

**Pattana Golf Club & Resort:** Course will be closed on 6-1- December for a tournament.

**Phoenix Golf Golf & Country Club:** Course will be closed during 9-10 December for a tournament.

**Rayong Green Valley Country Club:** Course will be closed during 1-14 January for the Asian Tour Q-School Tournament.

**Siam Country Club, Old Course:** Course will be closed during 9 February - 1 March for the Honda LPGA Tournament.

**Siam Country Club, Plantation Course:** Course will be closed during 24-25 November and on 19 November for tournaments.

**Siam Country Club, Waterside Course:** Course will be closed during 4-12 December for a tournament.

**Silky Oak Country Club:** Course will be closed during 1-6 January for the Asian Tour Q-School Tournament.

**St. Andrews 2000 Golf Club:** Course will be closed during 1-14 January for the Asian Tour Q-School Tournament.

## Phuket

**Blue Canyon Country Club, Canyon Course:** Course will be closed during 9-10 December for a tournament.

**Blue Canyon Country Club, Lakes Course:** Course will be closed during 9-10 December for a tournament.

## Chiang Mai

**Gassan Legacy Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 19 January for a tournament.

**Gassan Panorama Golf Club:** Course will be closed until 31 December for renovation.

**Mae Jo Golf Club:** Course will be closed on on 16 December for tournaments.

## Chiang Rai

**Santiburi Chiang Rai Country Club:** Course will be closed on 8 December for tournaments.

## Vietnam

### Danang



All courses are in good condition.

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## Hanoi

**Dai Lai Star Golf & Country Club:** Course will be closed during 9-10 December for a tournament.

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**Hanoi Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 9, 10 & 17 December for tournaments.

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**Van Tri Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 16 December

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## Hai Phong / Halong Bay

**BRG Ruby Tree Golf Resort:** Course will be closed on 16 December for tournaments.

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## Saigon

**Jeongsan Country Club:** Course will be closed on 12 December for a tournament.

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**Long Thanh Golf Club & Residential Estate:** Course will be closed on 24 January.

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**The Bluffs Ho Tram Strip:** Course will be closed on 17 December for a tournament.

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**Vietnam Golf & Country Club:** Course will be closed on 8-10, 13, 16-17 & 29

December for tournaments.

---

## Vung Tau

All courses are in good condition.

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## Indonesia

### Bali

**Nirwana Bali Golf Club:** Course will be closed until 31 July 2020 for major renovation.

---

### Jakarta

**Royale Jakarta Golf Club:** Course will be closed during 11-18 December for the Indonesian Masters tournament.

---



## Malaysia

### Kuala Lumpur

**Saujana Golf & Country Club, Palm Course:** Course will be closed during 9-12 February for the Maybank Championship (Asian Tour).

---

**TPC KL, East Course:** Tee times only available in afternoon until 31 Aug 2018.

TPC KL, West Course: Course will be closed for renovation until 31 Aug 2018.

## Cambodia

Siem Reap

All courses are in good condition.

Phnom Penh

All courses are in good condition.

## Myanmar

Yangon

Pun Hlaing Golf Club: Course will be closed during 26-29 January for the Leopalace21 Myanmar Open (Asian Tour).

## Singapore

Sentosa Golf Club, Serapong Course: Course will be closed during 19-22 January for the SMBC Singapore Open (Asian Tour).

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### GOLF TOURNAMENTS

Amari Hua Hin  
Golf Week -  
March 2018



Hua Hin,  
Thailand



11 - 17  
March, 2018

[\[FIND OUT MORE\]](#)

Avani Pattaya  
Golf Week -  
March 2018



Pattaya,  
Thailand



18 - 24  
March, 2018

[\[FIND OUT MORE\]](#)

Vietnam  
Golf Week -  
April 2018



Danang,  
Vietnam



15 - 21  
April, 2018

[\[FIND OUT MORE\]](#)

Centara World Masters  
Golf Championship -  
June 2018

Mercure Pattaya 2 Ball  
Golf Championship -  
June 2018

AccorHotels Vietnam  
World Masters Golf  
Championship -  
June 2018



Hua Hin,  
Thailand



10 - 16  
June, 2018



Pattaya,  
Thailand



17 - 23  
June, 2018



Danang,  
Vietnam



9 - 15  
Sep., 2018

[FIND OUT MORE]

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## HUA HIN PROPERTIES

### Thai Bali Villa On Palm Hills Golf Course



Located in the prestigious Palm Hills Golf & Country Club community, this beautiful pool villa with 4 bedrooms and 4 bathrooms family home offers truly fantastic outdoor living, with swimming pool and jacuzzi. With its extra large fully equipped and high standard European kitchen, open plan, modern living area. It's the perfect home for entertaining family and friends with a huge outdoor, covered terrace living area. Beautiful views around the golf course and full family golf membership.

For more information [visit our website](#).

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### BEST OF THE BLOG

What Makes Nikanti Golf Club an Unusual Golf Course?



It seems like the golf architect Pirapon Namatra (Ope) of Golf East listened quite a lot to Tina Turner's famous song 'Break every rule' when he designed **Nikanti Golf Club**, Asia's first 18 hole, par 72 golf course comprising three six-hole layouts



### GOLFING TIPS

Golf in Asia



With so many new golf courses being built in Thailand (2 new ones being built in Pattaya alone this year) you should make an effort to play the new & different courses in your chosen golf destination. So many people come back and play the same golf



each with two par-threes, two par-fours and two par-fives. Thailand's 291st golf course was opened in May 2014. The **Nikanti Golf Club** is almost adjacent to Suwan Golf Club.

When **Pirapon Namatra** (the designer of Banyan Club and part of the construction company responsible for Siam Country Club's new Siam Waterside) invented and implemented his **'triple-six' concept**, he introduced a new distribution of par-3, par-4 and par-5 holes. Rather than having traditional front and back nines, here there are three loops of six, each one returning to the stylish and soon-to-be sumptuously appointed clubhouse. The reason, **flexibility**. Don't have time for a full 18? Just play 12. Want to have another go at the reachable but dangerous par-5 18th? Why not squeeze in that final loop of six?



courses each time they return to Asia. Part of the fascination with golf is to play new golf courses and experience the difference that each golf course offers to the golfer. Next trip you make to Thailand try and play a new one. Some of our suggestions are **Wangjuntr** (Pattaya destination) **Grand Prix Golf Club** (Kanchanaburi destination) **Mountain Creek Golf Resort and Residence** (Khao Yai destination) and **Lotus Valley Golf Resort** (Bangkok destination). With such a great variety of golf courses available in Thailand you are doing yourself a disservice if you don't try some of the ones you haven't played yet.

If you want some suggestions on which golf courses to play while here in Asia please email us at [info@golfasian.com](mailto:info@golfasian.com).



FOR MORE GOLF TIPS VISIT [WWW.GOLFTHINK.COM](http://WWW.GOLFTHINK.COM)

[\[READ THE ENTIRE ARTICLE\]](#)

Other golf stories can be found at the **Thailand Golf Zone**, **Vietnam Golf Zone**, **Phuket Golf Zone** and **Vietnam Golf Tourism** Blogs where there are over 1,600 original golf articles & commentary dealing exclusively with golf in Asia and golf travel.

I would love to hear about any golf tips you may have gathered from your golf trips. I can incorporate some in future articles so if you have any suggestions you would like to share, please let me know by [dropping me an email](#).

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### GOLF TRAVEL INSURANCE

Have you thought about golf travel insurance for your trip? Golfasian has teamed up with Pacific Cross insurance to offer:

<b>Personal Accident Insurance</b> up to <b>USD 65,000</b>	<b>Medical Treatment</b> up to <b>USD 75,000</b>	<b>Hole-In-One</b> up to <b>USD 300</b>
<b>Emergency Evacuation &amp; Repatriation Loss/Damage of Baggage</b> up to		<b>Loss/Damage of Golfing Equipment</b> up to

USD 800

USD 2,000

AND A LOT MORE !

For more information visit our website.

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## MEET GOLFIASIAN AT THESE TRADE/ROADSHOWS/FAM-TRIPS



Golfasian has a full schedule of trade shows and roadshows during the next few months. You can find us at the following 2017 events.

**December 01 - 16** Australia & New Zealand Roadshow

**December 11 - 14** International Golf Travel Market (IGTM) (Cannes, France)

**April 22 - 25** Asia Golf Tourism Convention (AGTC) (Manila, Philippines)

[📅 ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT WITH GOLFIASIAN AT ONE OF THESE EXHIBITS.](#)

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You get our Asian Golf Newsletter!! PLUS free access to the latest THAILAND GOLF INSIDER TIPS, a 15 page special report, and you will also be eligible for other great member offers from Golfasian.

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[Sign Up Now !!](#)

\*We take the privacy of our clients and partners very seriously and will not sell or redistribute your sensitive information.

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If any reader would like to suggest a topic to be covered or better yet contribute materials, photos, or even commission an article please contact us by e-mail, we welcome the help.

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