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Asian Golf Travel Nation - June 2013



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Dear Golf Travelers,



Media at the Golf in a Kingdom Cup 2013

Greetings from Asia and welcome to the latest issue of the Asian Golf Nation, the source for news breaking information about golf in Asia.

Asian golf travel is on the upswing as global awareness about the unique golfing experiences, excellent value-for-money, and world-class service quality continues to generate more and more interest in golf holidays throughout Asia. Last month we met many of our friends at the [global launch of Thailand's best golf courses and resorts](#) (Golf In A Kingdom), and on 3 familiarization trips for golf media and golf tour operators. Thank you to those who travelled with us. For those that didn't, look out for stories of

these trips in upcoming issues of major golf publications worldwide.

We now have over 70 years combined experience as a specialist golf tour operator, more than any in Asia. Check out [our website](#) for a full list of what we do or if you would like us to visit you and discuss our products please do not hesitate to contact us for an appointment.

The summer in Asia is sometimes referred to the "rainy season" due to the frequent afternoon showers. However, did you know that July and August are my 2 favorite months for golf in Asia? Summer brings cooler temperatures, green fairways, and is a season of golf festivals and sports days. Dry daytimes insure excellent and uninterrupted golf as most rain comes late in the day or overnight. Lower prices and fewer tourists make for some great golf deals. For example, on Tuesdays you can play [Santiburi Samui Country Club](#) (2012 Queens Cup) at 40% off normal rates and on Wednesdays you can play Pattaya's [Siam Country Club Old Course](#) (2013 Honda LPGA) and get a 60% discount on green fees. There are many more specials like this across the region so feel free to [inquire here](#) to find out how you can take advantage of them all!

As always there are many other golf 'happenings' around the region so with that, I invite you to enjoy this edition of the Asian Golf Nation.

[→ Visit Golfasian Today!](#)

Golf news from around the region:

Thailand



Pattaya: The Eastern Seaboard is set get some new world-class golf courses. Construction progress at the new Siam Country Club Waterside Course is going well and once open in 2014 will mark the first 63 hole golf complex in Thailand. Moreover, two Pattaya golf courses have changed

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ownership this past month. The ever challenging [Phoenix Golf & Country Club](#) is now owned by Hemaraj, the large industrial estate company and the run down Rayong Century was bought by [TCC Capital Land](#), one of Thailand's biggest land developers. Let's hope that both owners will invest to bring their courses up to the levels set by the aforementioned top clubs and catapult Pattaya to become Asia's premium golf destination.




Phoenix Golf & Country Club, Pattaya

Khao Yai: Little known [Mountain Creek Golf Resort](#) is Thailand's only Seve Ballesteros designed track. Boasting 36 holes and an excellent clubhouse the course is some 20km past Khao Yai. Is it worth the drive? Well probably not if you are just coming to golf once. However, if combined with some of the other areas course like [Panorama Country Club](#), [Rancho Charnvee Golf Club](#), and/or [Toscana Valley Country Club](#), it could make for a great golf holiday away from the masses of tourists in the more established golf destinations. Let me know if you would like more information. I plan to run a golf trip to Khao Yai at least once a month.



Mountain Creek Golf Resort

Malaysia

 **Kuala Lumpur:** Here is some good news for those travelling in Malaysia. We can now secure tee times at the super exclusive [The Mines Resort & Golf Club](#) (PGA Tour CIMB Classic and site of Tiger Woods' 1998 Asia Tour win). Combine this with golf at [Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club](#) (European Tour's Maybank Open), and [Saujana Golf & Country Club](#) (PGA, European Tour, and Asian Tour Malaysia Open) and you just might have the highest quality championship golf trip of your life. Better yet, why not combine Malaysia's capital city together with golf in the Thai tropical paradise of Phuket? You will not only get to play great golf, but also have an out-of-this-world golf experience guaranteed!



Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club

Langkawi: The [Golf Club Datai Bay](#) will re-open in December 2013. The old course is making way for a new Ernie Els designed course. When the new Datai Bay re-opens it could debut near the top of the Malaysian course rankings.





Golf Club Datai Bay, Langkawi


Vietnam

 **Nha Trang:** After nearly 3 years in construction the full 18 at [Diamond Bay Resort & Golf](#) is open for play. Initial reports indicate some challenges ahead for Vietnam's newest 18, but nevertheless the second Nha Trang golf course is a most welcome addition to the golf scene. Nha Trang is now also a good alternative to Phan Thiet as accessibility, golf courses, and resorts are all superior.

With that I would like to once again thank those of you who have golfed with us recently, it was nice seeing you and I hope your trip was memorable one.


 [Golfing Tips by Ian Morgan - Golf in the "Green Season"](#)

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Subscription Offer

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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.

Another good reason to be **registered** on the Golfasian mailing list!



Golf Lessons



Remember, while the offerings are many, the choice is yours, and golf in Asia is waiting for you. Whatever your budget, preferred style of travel, or how small/large your group, we are glad to work with you and suggest a [golf package](#) that meets all of your needs.

Contact the [Asian Golf Experts](#) at info@golfasian.com.

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

Mark Siegel
Managing Director of Golfasian

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Golf Travel Testimonials

A first class experience once again.

What I tell my friends is that I hand my golf bag over in reception of the hotel and don't touch it again until I get back there. In between I play the best courses I've ever played, have the wonderful experience of Thai caddies and enjoy the grandeur and services of the most wonderful club houses and restaurants.

Kevin S.
May 2013
[\[Read more golf travel testimonials\]](#)
[\[Find out about Golfasian's Travel Satisfaction Guarantee\]](#)



Kota Kinabalu Destination Review

Kota Kinabalu is the capital city of Sabah. Situated in the north-eastern part of the world's third largest island, Sabah is the second largest state in Malaysia. Referred often as the "Land Below The Wind", Sabah has a tropical climate with sunny blue skies most days of the year.

The state of Sabah has plenty to offer to tourists and holidaymakers. Activities like mountain climbing, jungle trekking and white water rafting are gaining popularity. There are also some fabulous islands for snorkeling, scuba diving or even simple swimming and idling away in the sun. One of the main attractions is the famous Mount Kinabalu, the highest peak in Southeast Asia. In addition to this there are some [fantastic golf courses](#) by designers such as Jack Nicklaus, Ronald Fream, Ted Parslow and Graham Marsh making this a great golf holiday destination. Kota Kinabalu is easily accessed from Kuala Lumpur and Singapore with daily flights to the international airport.



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★ Featured Golf Course - Sutera Harbour Golf & Country Club, Kota Kinabalu

Part of the Sutera Harbour Resort complex, the [Sutera Harbour Golf and Country Club](#) is a 27-hole 6316 meter championship golf course designed by Graham Marsh. Centrally located in the heart of Kota Kinabalu City and just 10 minutes from the International Airport, the course is also within walking distance of both resorts at Sutera Harbour.



Sutera Harbour Golf & Country Club

The Sutera Harbour Golf Club has collected numerous awards of distinction and hosted several major tournaments including the 2nd Best Golf Resort in 2008 and the Asian Tour 2011 Sabah Masters, respectively. In 2012 Sutera Harbour hosted the One Asia Qualifying School as well a qualifier for the World Amateur Inter-Team Golf Championship, sponsored by Tourism Malaysia that attracts players from all over the world.

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

★ Featured Hotel - Shangri-La's Rasa Ria Resort

This beautiful beach front 5-star property has a variety of exciting outdoor activities, such as the Nature Reserve, Orang Utan education center and challenging golf course, Shangri-La Rasa Ria Resort is the Premier Luxury Resort in the province of Sabah. The resort has over 400-acre tropical settings including a beautiful beach.



Shangri-La Rasa Ria Resort, Sabah

[\[Read more about one of Kota Kinabalu's Best Hotels & Resorts\]](#)

Golf Trip Idea: Kota Kinabalu Golf Tour

Visit the beautiful capital city of Sabah: Kota Kinabalu. This 'Nature Resort City' extend for kilometres along the shore. Here you find first-class hotels, countless restaurants and cafés, and some of the greatest shopping malls. Besides the beautiful sights Kota Kinabalu also offers great golf, designed by world renowned golf architects. Choose from one of the luxurious selections of hotels and play golf at one of the popular courses.

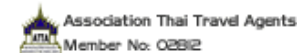
[\[Kota Kinabalu Golf Tour Detailed Itinerary...\]](#)



Orang Utan on Kota Kinabalu



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 **First Ever Southern Thailand Singles Golf Tour**

Golfasian are very happy to introduce our first "Singles Tour" to take place in Southern Thailand from 1st - 11th of March, 2014. We appreciate it is not always easy to travel alone, especially to long distance destinations such as Thailand and why should you miss out on one of best golfing destinations in the world.

The service we offer is personal, yet unobtrusive and you will be with other single travellers who share a passion for life, and a desire to embrace new golf experiences and discover exciting places.

We have personally put together [this golf package](#) which we believe will give you a memorable contrast of what Southern Thailand can offer. The tour will start in the Pearl of the Andaman, on the beautiful island of Phuket before travelling north to the Khao Sok National Park where you will discover not only magnificent scenery, but also one of the undiscovered golfing gems of Thai golf.



The golf will be relaxed and we will have some competitions on the way. Optional, there will be some local restaurants that you would never normally find, as well as excursions you may wish see such as Phi Phi Island and James Bond Island. But the main object is to see a new part of the world, have some fun and make some new friends along the way.

We look forward to seeing you in Thailand!

[Read the tour itinerary](#)

Golf Courses

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 **Meet our Staff: Paul Tudor - Overseas Sales Manager**

Paul is from Melbourne, Australia and grew up playing golf on the famous sand belt courses of Victoria. After relocating to the Gold Coast, Queensland he completed a bachelor of business degree as well as becoming a Full Member of the PGA of Australia.

Paul spent 6 years as a golf professional, including 5 years teaching golf in Singapore where he had the opportunity to play and travel to many of the great courses throughout SE Asia. He gained an extensive knowledge of the courses through having played in Singapore, Bintan, Malaysia and Thailand and a love for golf travel.



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After taking a position in Bangkok, as the head instructor at Wilding Golf, Paul was later introduced to Managing Director of Golfasian, Mr Mark Siegel. The opportunity to work for Golfasian was presented and with little hesitation Paul took up the position as Overseas Sales Manager. Paul's main area of focus is Malaysia and in the coming months Paul will expand Golfasian's reach into the Indonesian market. As a golf professional Paul understands what the golfers wants and needs are in regards to selecting

courses for their golf holidays and aims to put together memorable golf holidays for his clients.

[\[Read more about Paul\]](#)



New 2013 Golf Specials...
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Click to take advantage of these special golf offers in
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SPECIAL PRICE!



Press Release: Golf In A Kingdom Launched Internationally

Bangkok, May 9 -- The international launch of Golf In A Kingdom has given further emphasis to Thailand's status as a leader in global golf tourism.

Attended by tour operators and media from around the world, as well as Golf In A Kingdom members, the Mayor of Pattaya Khun Itthiphol Kunplome and Thai golf tourism identities, the launch event was held at Siam Country Club's Plantation Course on May 1.

With 23 members, Golf In A Kingdom is a collection of Thailand's leading courses and hotels that has become the leading golf tourism program of its kind in Asia Pacific. It has played a major role in Thailand's rapid growth in golf tourism - one of the Tourism Authority of Thailand's four major tourism promotional pillars.



[\[Read the entire Press Release\]](#)

Golf Course Maintenance Updates

Thailand

Bangkok

- Alpine Golf & Sports Club, Bangkok Golf Club, Royal Gems, Suwan, Thai Country Club, Thana City & Muang Kaew are in excellent condition
- Riverdale Golf Club - coring green planned during June 12 - 30
- Royal Golf & Country Club - coring green planned for June

Hua Hin

- Royal Hua Hin Golf Course - course maintenance planned for July
- Imperial Lake View - Course C closed for maintenance from 28 May - 28 June
- Banyan, Black Mountain, Majestic Creek & Sea Pine are all in excellent condition

Pattaya

- Laem Chabang - course will be closed from 6 May - 7 June for course maintenance
- Phoenix GCC - coring green planned for the Lake Course from 22 May - 7 June
- Siam Country Club, St. Andrews & Burapha GC are in excellent condition

Phuket

- Blue Canyon, Canyon Course - coring green planned for 3 - 6 June
- Blue Canyon, Lakes Course - light topdress planned for 5 June
- Laguna Phuket Golf Club - **9 holes (starting with the back 9) will be closed for 18 months from July 2013 onwards**
- Loch Palm GC - coring green planned for July/August
- Red Mountain GC - coring green planned for July/August
- Phuket CC - verti-cut & top dressing planned for 4 - 5 June, coring green planned for 2 - 3 July
- Mission Hills is in excellent condition

Chiang Mai

- Alpine, Chiang Mai Highlands & Mae Joe are in excellent condition

Vietnam

Hanoi

- Van Tri Golf Club - excellent condition
- Kings Island Golf Club - Mountain View & Lakeside are in good condition. (Lakeside 5th green being re-built, opens in early August 2013.)

Danang

- Laguna Lang Co Golf Club - verticutting/light sanding on greens from 5th June, full recovery within 14 days
- Danang Golf Club - coring greens and tees on 4 & 5 June
- Montgomerie Links - in great condition



Golf Tournaments

Phuket Amateur Golf Week - July 2013

Date: July 21 - 27, 2013 | Location: Phuket, Thailand
[\[Find out more\]](#)

Cambodia Amateur Golf Week - July 2013

Date: July 28 - August 05, 2013 | Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia
[\[Find out more\]](#)

Pattaya Amateur Golf Week - October 2013

Date: October 19 - 26, 2013 | Location: Pattaya, Thailand
[\[Find out more\]](#)

Chiang Mai Amateur Golf Week - October 2013

Date: October 26 - November 03, 2013 | Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand
[\[Find out more\]](#)



Best of the Blog Vietnamgolfzone.com

What to Bring When Golfing in Vietnam

Golfing in Vietnam is different from golf in Europe and the USA and what to bring with you to the Vietnam golf courses is more than the obvious. Other than your clubs I suggest every Vietnam golfer be sure of the five following points before heading to the golf course.

[\[Read on to find out!\]](#)

Other golf stories can be found at the [Thailand Golf Zone](#), [Vietnam Golf Zone](#) and [Phuket Golf Zone](#) where there are over 600 other original articles



dealing exclusively with golf in Asia and golf travel.

I would love to hear about any golf tips that any of you may have developed for getting the maximum enjoyment from your golf trips, and can incorporate some in future articles. Therefore if you have any golf tips or suggestions you would like to share, please [let me know](#) by dropping me an email.

➔ Subscribe to our [RSS Feed](#).



Golfing Tips by Ian Morgan - Golf in the "Green Season"

Despite the amount of rainfall, one seldom loses a whole day's golf to the weather. You may get a little wet, but the chances of being rained off completely are very slim. Even if you do get rain, take a break at the many drinks stops and let the rain pass. My advice when to tee-off, would be early to mid morning in the low season (May to October), and early afternoon in the high season (November to April).

[[Read more Golf Tips Articles](#)]

If you have any other questions regarding golf tips to help you with your game email us at info@golfasian.com and we will reply in upcoming newsletters

For more golf tips visit www.golfthink.com



Meet Golfasian at these Trade/Roadshows/Fam-Trips

Golfasian has a full schedule of tradeshow and roadshows during the next few months.

You can find us at the following events:

- June 13 - 16, 2013 - ITE & MICE Hong Kong 2013 (China)
- October 24 - 27, 2013 - Malaysia Sports Trade and Golf Expo (MSTGE) 2013 (Malaysia)
- November 11 - 14, 2013 - IGTM (Costa Daurada, Spain)

[Arrange an appointment](#) with Golfasian at one of these exhibits.



About Us & Contacts

If any reader would like to suggest a topic to be covered or better yet contribute materials,



photos, or even commissions an article please [contact us by e-mail](#), we welcome the help.

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