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## May 2017 Edition

Dear Golf Travelers,



Welcome to the May 2017 issue of the Asian Golf Nation, the source for news breaking information about golf in Asia. In addition, 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.

Asian golf holidays are going from strength to strength in 2017 as the region's popularity among golf travelers continues to grow. Most notably, new destinations with championship golf courses are coming online in Vietnam and Malaysia. Regional **golf festivals** are being held at all of the main Thailand golf destinations. Add to this, excellent value-for-money hotel rates, world class service, exotic culture, and plentiful nightlife and it's hard to envision anything but unforgettable golf experiences.

On our side we are very busy getting the word out about golf in Asia. This month will see the whole crew attending Asia's largest B2B golf conference in **Danang Vietnam**, launching of our new web site, as well as the introduction of new products for Asian, Australian, and European golfers. Callum and I will also travel to the Philippines to participate in a regional golf competition. We will do some undercover work to gauge the golf tourism potential, so stay tuned for our **Philippines golf** trip reports next month.

Back home, final preparations are underway for the Centara World Masters and Pattaya 2Ball golf tournaments in June. Both are all but sold-out; though if you are interested let me know and I will see if we can squeeze you in. Otherwise,

the 3rd edition of the Vietnam World Masters is taking place in August in Danang. This will be followed by two Thai Amateur golf events planned for November. In fact, the **Chiang Mai Amateur Week** will be our first ever to be completely staged at an integrated **golf resort** and not only be all inclusive golf, but also all meals and drinks. It's sure to be a sell-out!

Of course there are lots of golf 'happenings' around the region so, I invite you to enjoy this edition of the Asian Golf Nation.

*Mark Siegel*  
*Managing Director of Golfasian*

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### GOLF NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION



Nha Trang (Cam Ranh Bay)



Desaru, Malaysia



CAM RANH



THE ELS CLUB DESARU COAST

Another Greg Norman designed links course is coming to Vietnam. Cam Ranh Links Golf Resort is located a short drive from the popular resort city of **Nha Trang**

**Golf tourism in Malaysia** is ready for another boost with the opening last month of the Valley Course at The Els Club Desaru Coast. A collaborative design from Ernie Els

**Vietnam** and just outside Cam Ranh International Airport. Scheduled to open later this year, the 18-hole championship course is being constructed on an elevated site of rolling sand dunes. Part of a large upscale development with 5 kilometers of ocean frontage, the links styled golf course will offer amazing ocean views of Cam Ranh Bay. IMG has been appointed to handle the pre-opening and management of the new club. Cam Ranh Links will be the third golf course in Nha Trang and greatly enhance the appeal among golf travelers looking for new premium golf destinations.

and Vijay Singh the newest premium Malaysian course sits adjacent to the 27-hole Ocean Course, which opened in 2016. The opening of the Valley Course is a major step towards establishing the east coast of peninsula Malaysia as an international golf destination. The two Els Courses together with the long established Trent Jones designed **Desaru Golf & Country Club** brings the area courses up to the critical mass needed for serious consideration by travelling golfers. Moreover, management by Troon assures international service and everyday quality standards associated with premium golf courses.

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**ASIA GOLF WEEK**



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**Join Asia's Most Exciting Amateur Golf Week!**

Our next group events will be held in Hua Hin and Chiang Mai

Starting 29th October we head to the seaside resort of Hua Hin for the **Amari Hua Hin Golf Week**. Traveling in Hua Hin during November, the weather is much cooler as we are heading into winter and is a great escape before Christmas. This event is a 6 night, 4 round tournament ([See our full inclusions here](#)) adhering to the stableford format playing **Black Mountain** and **Banyan Golf Club** twice, with a 19th Hole function around the pool with snacks and drinks while enjoying the daily presentation of prizes. [See photos from last year's event here](#).

*The early bird offer for Amari is book and pay before 1st June and receive a 15% discount and a complimentary room upgrade to Deluxe Poolview courtesy of Amari Hua Hin [Please register here now to take advantage of this offer](#).*

Following straight after will be the new tournament in Chiang Mai starting 5th November. This new event is in partnership with Alpine Golf Resort which has offered an *all-inclusive package including accommodation, meals, drinks, transfers and unlimited golf at Alpine Golf Club*.

The event is a 4 round tournament played in the stableford format playing 2 rounds at **Alpine Golf Club** and the other two rounds at nearby **Chiang Mai Highlands**. We have both prizes for daily scoring including NTP and best front and back nine scores as well as overall trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each division.

Both golf courses rank highly in the top 20 golf courses in Thailand and should be on your playing list when in Chiang Mai (*and we are playing them twice !!*)

Each night there will be an international buffet dinner and daily results presentation.

There are 3 rooms types available *Superior, Deluxe and Junior suites* and for the month of May, our Early Bird booking offer we are doing a 15% discount for the first 50 bookings paid in full 'til the 1st June (whichever comes first) [Full details available here](#).

If you would like to book one of our events, or have any questions, please email us at [tournaments@asiagolfweek.com](mailto:tournaments@asiagolfweek.com)



## GOLF TRAVEL TESTIMONIALS



Hi, my name is Bill Donovan. I have played golf seriously for 34 years. My current handicap is 10 and I am a member of Pacific Golf Club at Carindale in Brisbane. Pacific is an 18-hole championship golf course in a parkland setting, with water on 16 of the holes. It is a very challenging layout.

This is my 6th trip to Thailand and my 3rd trip to **Hua Hin**. Our group, 6 males all from Pacific Golf Club, have been to Hua Hin 3 times, **Pattaya** twice and once to **Chiang Mai**. Hua Hin is our favourite golfing destination in Thailand. We have booked the last 5 trips through **Golfasian** and they have been fantastic. Our last 3 trips have been booked through Fai at Golfasian and she has done a terrific job. Many years ago, one of our friends went to Thailand and absolutely raved about how good everything was and this prompted us to organise a trip.



[\[Read the entire interview online\]](#)

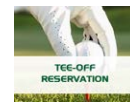
[\[ Read more Testimonials \]](#)



## GOLF TRAVEL TESTIMONIALS



Andrew McCleary from Australia speaks to Golfasian's John Carter about his recent golf holiday experience in Thailand. **Let us know** if you would like to take part in this series, we would be delighted to speak to you. [[Watch the entire interview online](#)]



## DESTINATION REVIEW

Siem Reap, Cambodia



Angkor Wat, Siem Reap, Cambodia

Siem Reap is the main golf destination in Cambodia. Siem Reap is a small former French colonial town that has been visited by foreigners mainly to see the 1,000 year old cradle of Khmer civilization and the Temples of Angkor Wat. There are 3 international standard 18-hole courses each with their own variety and challenges for everyone from amateurs to professionals. Of these, **Angkor Golf Resort** leads the pack in terms of world-class quality and service. In addition, with the temples of Angkor Wat nearby, Siem Reap is one of the world's best undiscovered golf destinations.

[\[Read the complete review\]](#)



-----View our [Siem Reap Golf Packages](#) | [Siem Reap Golf Courses](#)

### FEATURED GOLF COURSE



The world class Faldo designed **Angkor Golf Resort** is the best golf course in Cambodia and by a wide margin. The six-time major winner Nick Faldo himself, received a blessing from local monks and then opened the golf course in December 2007, his first golf course in Cambodia. The Angkor Golf Resort brings Cambodia squarely onto the international golf destination map.

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

### FEATURED HOTEL



**Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf and Spa Resort** is the nearest resort to the ruins of Angkor Wat. This unique Cambodia hotel is located near traditional markets, tourist attractions and the airport of Siem Reap. Enjoy the many features of this resort, including spacious guest rooms, an outdoor pool, Jacuzzi, spa, 5 restaurants and the popular **Phokeethra Country Club**; a world class 18 hole golf course.

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

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GOLF TRIP IDEA

## Siem Reap - Danang (2-Destination) Golf Package



Enjoy golf in two of Asia's best and up-and-coming golf destinations. Play in the 21st Century among the 11th Century ruins at Angkor Wat. Experience golf in Danang and see why the area is referred to as Golf Coast Vietnam.

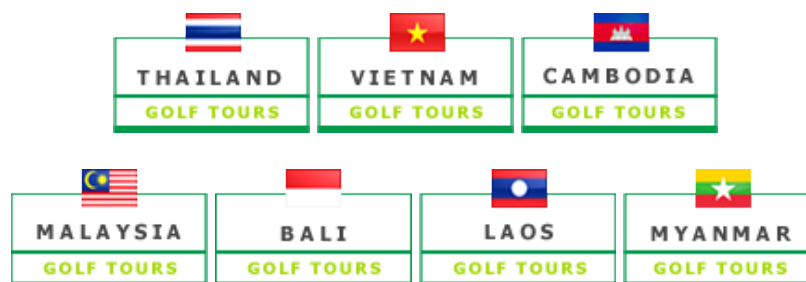
View the [complete golf holiday itinerary](#).

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



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### GOLF TOURS



### GOLF COURSES





## GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE & CLOSURES

### Thailand

#### Bangkok

**Lam Luk Ka Country Club:** Course will be undergoing coring greens during 29 May - 7 July.

**Muang Kaew Golf Club:** Course will be undergoing coring greens during 2-4 May

**Nikanti Golf Club:** Course will be closed 11-12, 15-19 and 22-26 May.

**Royal Golf & Country Club:** Course will be undergoing coring greens during 5 June - 15 July.

**Summit Windmill Golf Club:** Course will be undergoing maintenance during 8 July (holes 1-9) and 15 July (holes 10-18).

**Thai Country Club:** Course will be closed from 15-20 July for a tournament.

**Windsor Park & Golf Club:** Course will be undergoing coring greens during 10 April - 1 June.

#### Hua Hin

**Banyan Golf Club:** Course will be closed during 30 April - 5 May for a tournament. Course will be undergoing coring greens during 8-13 May. Course will be closed during 12-13 & 15-16 June for the Centara World Masters Golf Championship.

**Black Mountain Golf Club:** Course will be closed during 12-13 & 15-16 June for the Centara World Masters Golf Championship.

**Lake View Resort & Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 27 May for a tournament.

**Palm Hills Golf Resort:** Course will be undergoing verticut during 24 April - 6 May.

**Sea Pines Golf Course:** Course will be undergoing maintenance during 6 April - 30

June (3 holes per day).

**Springfield Royal Country Club:** Course C will be undergoing maintenance during 8 May - 18 June.

## Pattaya

**Greenwood Golf & Resort:** The course will be closed on 14 & 28 May for tournaments.

**Khao Kheow Country Club:** Course C will be closed for maintenance during 1-31 May and course A will be closed for maintenance during 1-30 June.

**Laem Chabang International Country Club:** Course A (mountain course) will be closed during 2-19 May for coring green. Course will be closed during 26 June - 2 July for the Singha tournament.

**Pattana Golf Club & Resort:** The course will be closed on 9, 14, 15-21 & 27-28 May for tournaments.

**Rayong Green Valley Country Club:** The course will be closed from 1 April - 31 October for renovation.

**Siam Country Club, Old Course:** Course will be closed every Monday from 24 April - 30 September.

**Siam Country Club, Plantation Course:** Course will be closed every Monday from 24 April - 30 September. Course will be closed on 3-4 May for the BMW Golf Cup.

**Siam Country Club, Waterside Course:** Course will be closed every Tuesday from 18 April - 26 September.

**Silky Oak Country Club:** Course will be undergoing coring greens during 29-31 May.

## Phuket

**Blue Canyon Country Club, Canyon Course:** Course will be undergoing coring greens during 8-11 May. Course will be undergoing verticut on 22 May and 5 June. Course will be closed from 12-15 June for maintenance. Course will be undergoing verticut on 22 June and 3 July.

**Blue Canyon Country Club, Lakes Course:** Course will be closed from 8-11 May for maintenance. Course will be undergoing verticut on 15 and 29 May.

**Laguna Golf Phuket:** Course will be closed during 22-28 May for the Singpa Phuket Open.

## Chiang Mai

**Gassan Khuntan Golf and Resort:** Course will be closed on 24 June for a tournament.

**Gassan Legacy Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 6 May for a tournament.

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

**Mae Jo Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 10 & 19 June for tournaments.

## Chiang Rai

**Happy City Resort:** Course will be closed on 22 June for a tournament.

## Vietnam

### Danang

All courses are in good condition.

### Hanoi

**BRG King's Island Golf Resort:** Course will be upgrading some holes during 10 March - 10 June.

### Saigon

**Jeongsan Country Club:** Course will be closed on 6 May for a tournament.

**Long Thanh Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 5 & 14 May for tournaments.

**Twin Doves Golf Club:** Course will be closed during 11-12 May for a tournament and during 15-17 May for maintenance.

**Vietnam Golf & Country Club:** Course will be closed on 5 & 12 May for tournaments.

### Vung Tau

**The Bluffs Ho Tram Strip:** Course will be undergoing coring greens during 17-29 May.

## Indonesia

### Bali

**Bukit Pandawa Golf & Country Club:** Course will be closed on 29 July for a tournament.

**New Kuta Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 12 (afternoon), 13 (morning), 18 (afternoon), 20 (all day) for tournaments.

**Nirwana Bali Golf Club:** Course will be closed from 31 July 2017 - 31 July 2020 for

major renovation.

 **Malaysia**

All courses are in good condition.

 **Cambodia**

Siem Reap

All courses are in good condition.

Phnom Penh

All courses are in good condition.











 **Singapore**

All courses are in good condition.

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**GOLF TOURNAMENTS**

<b>Cambodia Vietnam Golf Week - April 2017</b>		<b>Phuket Amateur Golf Week - June 2017</b>		<b>Centara World Masters Golf Championship - June 2017</b>	
 <b>Siem Reap &amp; Danang</b>	 <b>5 - 15</b> April, 2017	 <b>Phuket</b>	 <b>4 - 10</b> June, 2017	 <b>Hua Hin, Thailand</b>	 <b>11 - 17</b> June, 2017
<a href="#">[FIND OUT MORE]</a>		<a href="#">[FIND OUT MORE]</a>		<a href="#">[FIND OUT MORE]</a>	
<b>Mercure Pattaya Ocean Resort 2 Ball Golf Championship - June '17</b>		<b>Cambodia Danang Golf Week - August 2017</b>		<b>Accor Vietnam World Masters Golf Championship - Aug '17</b>	
 <b>Pattaya, Thailand</b>	 <b>18 - 24</b> June, 2017	 <b>Siem Reap &amp; Danang, Thailand</b>	 <b>2 - 12</b> August, 2017	 <b>Danang, Vietnam</b>	 <b>13 - 19</b> August, 2017

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### Chiang Mai Amateur Golf Week - November 2017


 Chiang Mai, Thailand

 5 - 11 November, 2017

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

### Amari Hua Hin Amateur Golf Week - October 2017

 Hua Hin, Thailand

 29 Oct. - 4 Nov. 2017

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## HUA HIN PROPERTIES

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### BEST OF THE BLOG

**Pattaya Golf**  
Take the Rough with the Smooth



### GOLFING TIPS

**The Personal Touch**



Undoubtedly Thailand golf is gaining in profile and quality thanks to a growing golf tourism market and increased television exposure of tournaments such as the Thailand Classic (Black Mountain) and Thailand Championship (Amata Spring). These 2 courses compare with some of the best in the world but understandably with that comes a price premium. I can see that someone arriving to play in Thailand probably will be looking for something special but perhaps they might wish to look further for an experience that is equally rewarding in different ways, but at a relatively bargain price.

If you are planning a golf trip in Thailand or elsewhere in South East Asia, whilst the Golfasian website has lots of detailed information and great value packages, remember that it also has experienced PGA professionals on the Staff who can put together something tailor-made for your particular needs. The personal touch will always lead you to something extra special so why not contact our [Asia golf specialists](#) today.



 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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## 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.

**May 7 - 10** Asia Golf Tourism Convention (AGTC)  
(Danang, Vietnam)

**June 25 - 28** IAGTO North America Golf Tourism  
Convention (Miami, Florida, USA)

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

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

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