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Asian Golf Nation - January 2010

Dear Travel Partners & Golf Travelers,



Welcome to the January edition of the Asian Golf Travel Nation. It's the first month of 2010 and I hope this finds you with great golf plans arranged for the winter months with friends and family - and hopefully coming on a golf tour with us here in Asia! This month we're gearing up for the busiest time of the year in golf travel and are ready to host golfers from around the world on life's best golf experiences. I hope to see you here soon!

January's Asian Golf Nation is sponsored by TrueStrike.

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Get more out of golf practice with [TrueStrike Golf Mats](#).

Now for the golf news from around the region:



Thailand

Bangkok: New York comes to Bangkok, well sort of, at least in name.

Riverdale Country Club is Bangkok's newest golf course. Located on land adjacent to the established [Bangkok Golf Club](#), Riverdale is the latest creation of Jonathan Morrow: the fame who also gave us Phuket's 2 newest courses: Phunaka in 2008 and [Red Mountain](#) in 2007. Jon has created Bangkok's newest premium golf course with spectacular 15 meter elevation changes (a feat in itself considering Bangkok's flat terrain), holes laid out like so they look like they belong on this land, natural streams and waste areas with loads of local fauna and wildlife, well you get the point: another great golf course!



I was out last month and even got to play a few holes. Grassing is complete and the course is set to open in the next 3-4 months. Stay tuned for the first course review right here!

Bangkok: Do you know one of only 2 Gary Player designed courses in Thailand is open again? The old World Trade Golf Club is now the [Lotus Valley Golf Resort](#) and besides sporting all new grasses and clubhouse the original layout remains one of the best tracks on the east side of Bangkok. Prices are quite reasonable (around \$50 USD including cart and caddie) as the golf course goes through its initial opening. If anyone is interested in playing, [let me know](#) and I will arrange it for you.

Vietnam



Danang: The Greg Norman designed Danang Golf Club; right next door to [The Montgomerie Links](#) is slated to open March 28 which should get the attention of golfers worldwide. With 2 Championship courses by renowned modern day architects side by side, Danang is poised to become Vietnam's newest major golf destination after Saigon and Hanoi.

Saigon: Twin Doves, a Peter Rousseau design near [Song Be in Saigon](#) and owned by the same group that did [Van Tri in Hanoi](#), opened nine holes recently. I don't know when all 18 will be ready but when they are the course is sure to be one of the countries best owning to the design and management pedigree.



Dalat: Royale City (near Dalat airport) was scheduled to open in the first quarter of 2010 is officially

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Golfing Tips

The Waggle

 Wagging consists of moving the club back and forth before striking the ball. You see it most often on the tee, although professional players use it on other parts of the course as well. To produce the waggle, you need to lighten up on your grip and arms. It is also a good antidote for players who tend to "freeze" over the ball or who start the back swing too early.

Wagging is a technique professional golfers use to relieve tension. Pros give the club that one final, aggressive waggle before launching their shot. The key is making sure the waggle mirrors the intended path of the swing. But wagging can do something else as well. It can serve as a swing trigger, encouraging a smooth first move away from the ball.

Try experimenting with the waggle. Developing an effective one can make a difference in your golf

delay. I have no idea what's happening but will report on things as soon as I find out.

Meanwhile, **Dalat Palace Golf Club** just won Vietnam Golf magazine's 'Best Course in Vietnam' for the second year in a row. For those of you that prefer cooler climates we are running South Vietnam golf tours including 2 rounds at this excellent course. **Let me know** if you want to find out more about this tour or just want to play a round in Dalat at a special price.

For those of you who have plans to golf in Asia this winter, I will see you soon. Others who want to travel here but have not made your plans, it's not too late. South East Asia remains the best value premium golf destination in the world and we can build you a package to suit any budget and preferred style of travel.

Remember if you want to get regular updates about golf in Indochina, then **sign-up** for uninterrupted email delivery of this newsletter. In addition, all persons signing up will automatically receive the latest "Thailand Golf Insider Tips" special report.

Until the next newsletter, happy golfing!

Mark Siegel
Managing Director of Golfasian

➔ Visit Golfasian Today!

Meet Golfasian at these Trade/Roadshows

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

You can find us at the following exhibits:

- January 22-24 - International Golf Festival (Kuala Lumpur)
- January 29-31 - USPGA Merchandise Show (Orlando)
- February 13-14 - Los Angeles Times Travel & Adventure Show (Los Angeles)
- April 30 - May 2 - Asian Merchandise Show (Bangkok)

Arrange an appointment with Mark Siegel, MD of Golfasian, at one of these exhibits.

Featured Resort - Woodlands Resort Pattaya

The Woodlands Resort, Pattaya is a boutique family owned golf resort which offers a relaxed environment in its own private property. Constructed using traditional Thai architecture, the Pattaya golf resort feels more like a Thai village than a hotel.

The staff provides personal service and interacts with guests as though they are part of an extended Thai family.

The Woodlands Resort is well liked by all; singles, couples, and families. However, as it is a small property and often fully booked, advance reservations are an absolute must! [\[Read More\]](#)



Featured Golf Course - Siam Country Club, Old Course

Siam Country Club is one of the more famous Thailand golf courses, being built more than 35 years ago. Over the years the golf course has hosted several international golf tournaments. Nowadays the course is impeccably maintained, in excellent playing condition, and has been transformed into its previous glory. Read on!

Siam CC is set in the low hills just a few kilometers from Pattaya and has been wonderfully landscaped to contain more than its fair share of mature trees,

vacation experience.

For more golf tips visit www.golfthink.com

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Now in its 11th year, Asian Golf Monthly is firmly established as one of the world's most prominent English-language magazines on golf.

It is unique as the only global title with an Asian perspective. **Read more** about how Asia's best players and destinations have grown from strength to strength on the global stage.

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shrubs and plants. Various fruit trees on the course give one the impression of being in an orchard, especially when in season. The abundant 'wildlife' in the form of sculptured bushes and hedges are a feature unique to Siam Country Club.

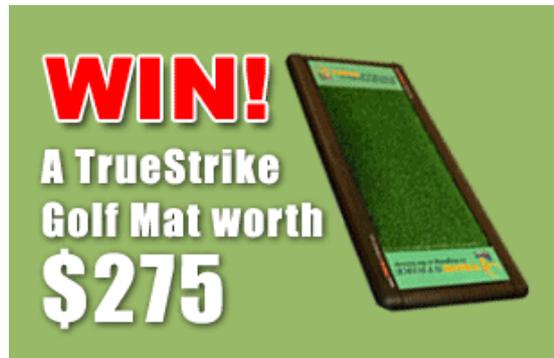
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TRUESTRIKE® Featured Product - TrueStrike Golf Practice Mat

Ordinary golf mats are unrealistic, uncomfortable and can cause injuries. TrueStrike is the only golf playing surface that features **fairway forgiveness™**. It simulates playing from a natural fairway with incredible accuracy giving golfers a **fantastic, realistic and comfortable practice experience**. And, its gel-filled subsurface massively reduces the risks of injury in practice.

Since Philip Sear invented TrueStrike in 2001, TrueStrike has provided unrivalled accuracy and comfort in golf practice. **Golfers love it!** Over the years Phil and his team have worked tirelessly to make TrueStrike better and better. Every component of the TrueStrike MK7 range (released January 5th 2010) has been engineered to maximise durability, so TrueStrike MK7 will last and last.



Today, because you're a subscriber to the Golf Asian newsletter, in association with TrueStrike we're giving you the chance to enter a **special prize draw**; One lucky winner will get a TrueStrike MK7 portable (worth \$275 + taxes and shipping) completely free.

Check out the video and enter the prize draw. [[Visit TrueStrike.com now](#)]

★ GolfAsian Delivers Enhanced Website

GolfAsian, the leading Thailand, Vietnam, and Cambodia golf tour operator launches its new and improved website www.golfasian.com.

"Our online presence is very strong and has been growing significantly over the past few months. We have significantly enhanced our web presence to provide our customers with an intuitive, stable and fast online experience and to deliver the most comprehensive destination and golf information available," said Mark Siegel, Managing Director of GolfAsian. "We aim to provide the best value for money Thailand Golf Tours and Vietnam Golf Holidays online as well as offline." [[Read More](#)]



📱 Best of the Blog thailandgolfzone.com

Golf Holiday and Travel Budgets

For anyone considering a golf holiday in Thailand or Vietnam, it is important to know the potential costs of your whole package in order to help you budget accordingly. In order to help you with this, [I have detailed below](#)



some information including the choice and costs of hotels, golf & transport, and additional expenses you will likely incur during your visit. When selecting your holiday the most important aspect for most people is their accommodation. If they are traveling a long distance from home, they wish to ensure that the accommodation is the best possibly suited based on their budget. After all, you are on holiday, and it is important you relax and enjoy

things as much as possible.

[Read more about golf holidays and budgets...](#)

Other golf stories can be found at the [Thailand Golf Zone](#) where there are over 450 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.

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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 me by e-mail](#), I welcome the help.

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