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Asia's Best Golf Tour Operator



Thailand's Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator



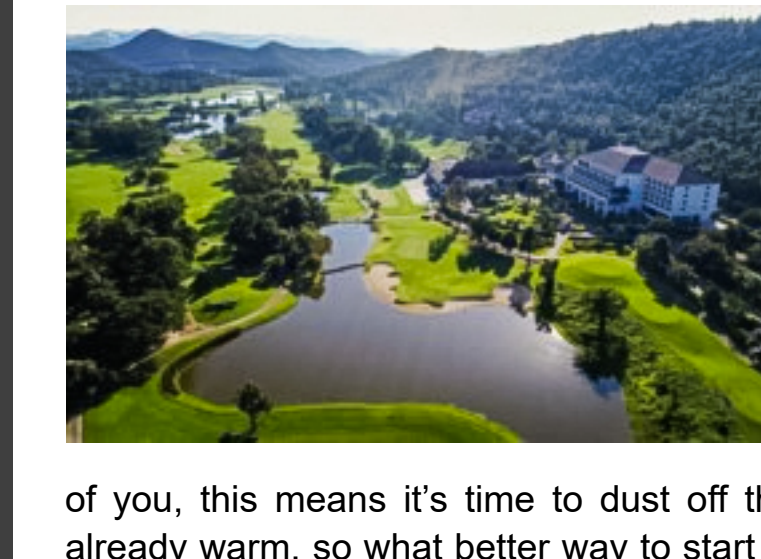
Vietnam's Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator



Indonesia's Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator

March 2019 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 Indonesia's tropical environment, announcements of golf travel promotions, and our latest subscription offer are all integral parts of today's newsletter.

The year is already moving fast as we already change seasons from winter to spring. For many of you, this means it's time to dust off the clubs and start practicing. In Asia, the weather is already warm, so what better way to start your golf year than to hit the links here for some early rounds.

The main golf courses, especially in Pattaya and Chiang Mai, are clearing out as golfers from cold destinations who winter there head home. Further north, the weather in places like Danang and Hanoi is spectacular. Add to this great availability of prime mid-morning tee times at top courses, and you have the framework for a fantastic golf trip.

On our side, it's the start of our main tournament season. March will see us host two Hua Hin events, including our first ever professional tournament.

The inaugural **Amarl Hua Hin Skins** match is being played March 10-16 and features prizes for every single hole. What better way than to play the field in a pair's matchup and hole-by-hole instead of having to struggle with one aggregate score over four days. I am looking forward to seeing the winners emerge.

The week after (March 17-14) is the **PGA's of Europe sponsored World Club Pro-Am**. Thirty hand-selected teams are competing for best in the world bragging rights, and pros play for cash prizes of US\$120K. The event not only will be a golf shootout, but the participants are sure to have a great time. Anyone, what to weger on the winning score? My vote is for 12 under par!

If you are interested in joining either or both of these fantastic golf events, then **drop me a line**. Just in case we get a last-minute cancellation I can try to fill you in. Otherwise, be sure to check out the **Centara Masters** in June and **Vietnam World Masters** in September. The Centara is our flagship event with 400 players from 30 countries registered and the Vietnam event is great for those who want to golf in Vietnam's central coast. Of course, any club golfer is welcome to join as a great week of golf, and many laughs in between are guaranteed.

While some say that **Asia's incredible golf courses** and bright sunshine are the main attractions, I beg to differ. To me and as a resident of Asia for the past 30 years, it's the rich cultural experiences together with very friendly locals encountered along the fairways that often leaves the fondest impressions. Just consider your caddie experiences, and you will know what I mean.

Complete **full-service** itineraries created for your specific travel preferences, expectations, group size, and budgetary requirements are our specialty. Please contact us anytime for a **competitive quote**.

Mark Siegel
Managing Director

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A winner of the 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 & 2018 World Golf Awards, Golfasian has once again been nominated for Asia's Best Golf Tour Operator. Please, vote for us now.



GOLF NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION



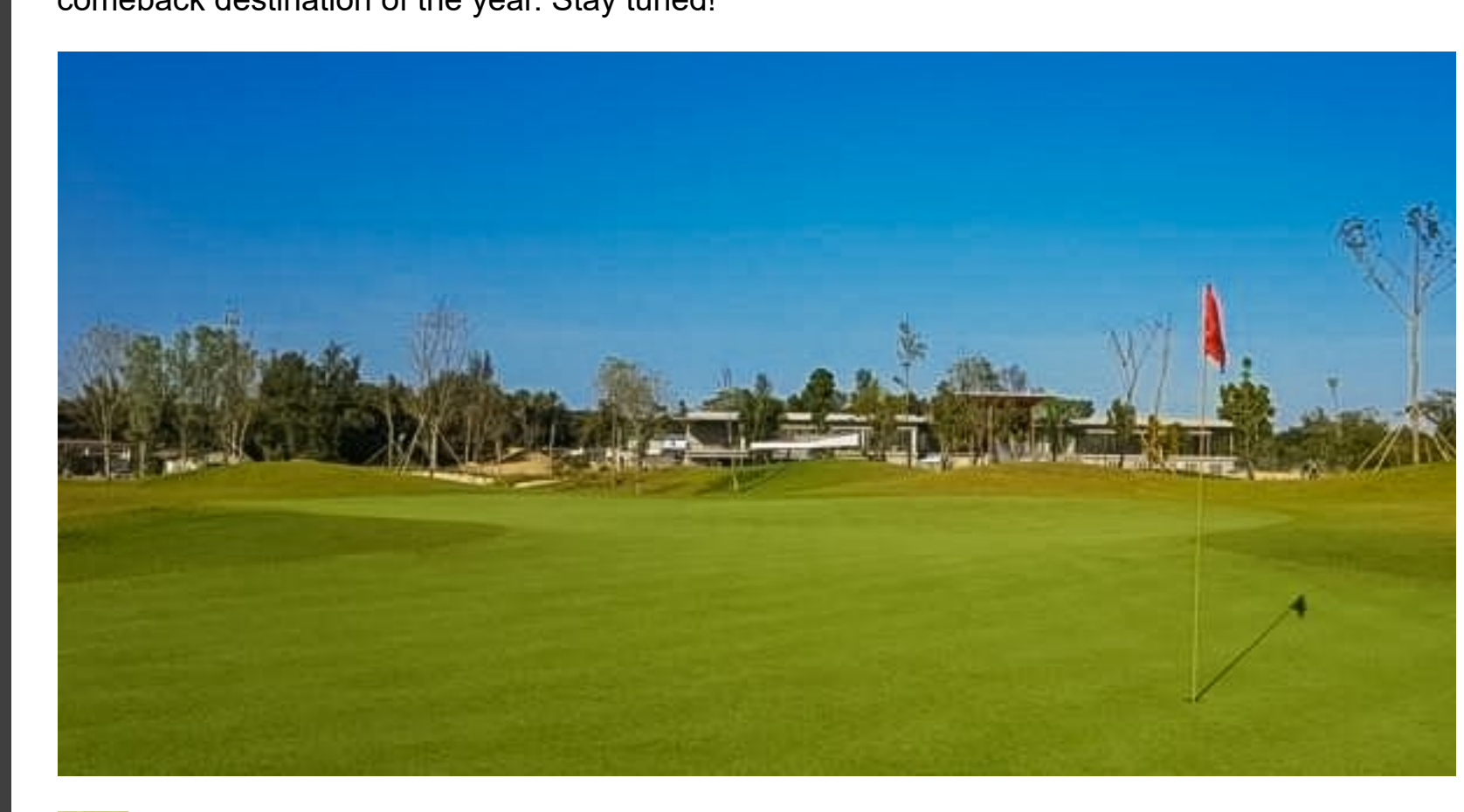
Phan Thiet, Vietnam



Kanchanaburi, Thailand

Anyone who knows a bit about Vietnam golf history is familiar with **Phan Thiet**. The resort town was pretty much the "only" golf resort game in town" when the Nick Faldo designed Ocean Dunes was in operation with its own Novotel golf resort. As much as it broke my heart when the course was paved over for housing some years back, Phan Thiet always held great nostalgia and fond memories in the minds of Vietnam's old hands. Now like a dream come true, Phan Thiet may be coming back onto the Vietnam golf scene as starting this quarter Greg Norman breaks ground on another championship course. Once completed and together with **Sea Links G&CC** (who has been running the whole time on its own), Phan Thiet may make it to comeback destination of the year. Stay tuned!

Thailand's historical town of Kanchanaburi already has 11 golf courses in and around the banks of the River Kwai. Add one more course to the list with the opening of **Blue Star Golf Course**. Not to be confused with Blue Sapphire (can't the owners think of any more original names), Blue Star is more akin to a miniature version of Grand Prix. The locally designed course is hilly and challenging. It's a bit tricked up in parts, but they make good use of the old mining lakes to create interesting holes and routing. Blue Star needs another season or so to grow-in and provide top playing conditions. In the meantime, green fees are cheap, and the beer is cold, so if new courses are your cup of tea, Blue Star may be worth a look.



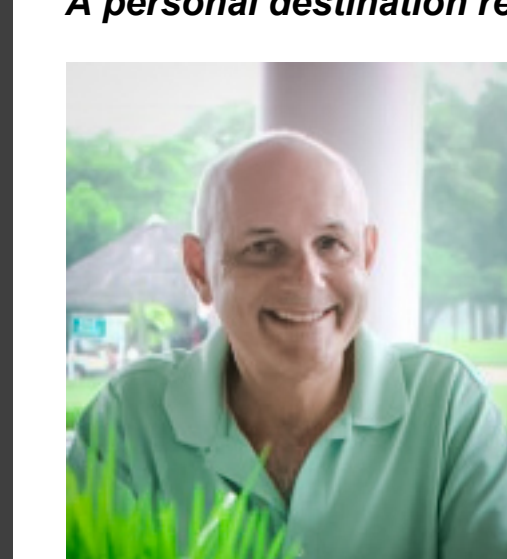
Yangon, Myanmar

SE Asia's last country to be developed and up-and-coming golf destination just added another course to its lineup. Located 15 minutes from the Yangon International Airport and adjacent to the military-owned **YDGC** 36-hole complex, lies the **Dagon Golf City & Luxury Golf Estates** project. Formerly an old fish farm, the site is scattered with small lakes that frame many of the holes. Significant earth moving and lake bed dredging was used to provide mounding which lines many of the fairways and define the green complexes. Paspalum grass on tees, fairways, and greens is new to Yangon but should make for decent year-round playing conditions in Myanmar's mostly tropical weather. Things aren't quite as first class, but they are close. **Dagon Golf City** is worthy of a play for anyone interested in golf in Myanmar.

GOLF DESTINATION REVIEW: Hanoi, Vietnam



A personal destination review from **Mark Siegel, Golfasian's Managing Director**.



After visiting Vietnam over 100 times, I still find fascination with Hanoi and its surrounding areas. Not only is Hanoi Vietnam's capital and the country's second largest city, but it's also the only major Vietnamese city with a distinct change of seasons and a great place to escape the heat of most other parts of SE Asia. The best golf weather in Hanoi is in Fall (September to November) and Spring (March to May) when it is cool with less humidity.

The city itself is a blend of old and new. French designed buildings are everywhere, and these days Hanoi is dotted with cafes and co-working spaces that house many of the world's digital nomads.

The mountains outside town also make for some spectacular scenery and are perfect for golf courses. My favorites include Vietnam's original 18-hole course at Kings Island, now with its newest Kings Course opened for play and **Stone Valley Golf Club**. The latter reminds me of Ha Long Bay on land.

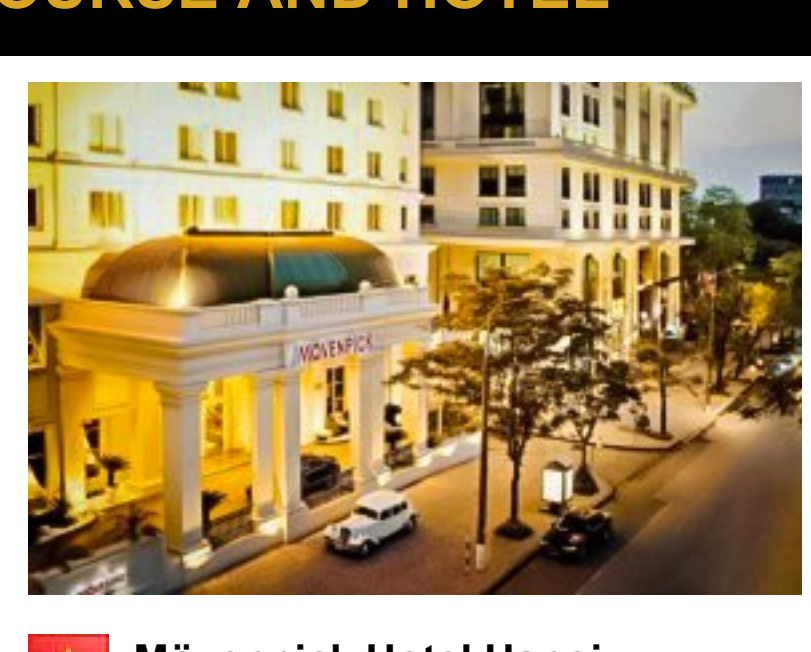
Speaking of Ha Long Bay, when I do visit Hanoi with first-timers, a side trip to one of the world's natural wonders is always a highlight. Plus, the journey is even better these days with a stop at the excellent **FLC Ha Long Bay Golf Club**. Be sure to have a handy spare phone battery, the cellies at the course will surely require a phone re-charge.

[Click for Hanoi Golf Holiday Inspirations](#)

FEATURED GOLF COURSE AND HOTEL



BRG Kings Island Golf Resort, Kings Course



Movenpick Hotel Hanoi

BRG Kings Island Golf Resort is a 54 hole golf resort in the outskirts of Hanoi. The golf resort lies on the shores of the Dong Mo reservoir 36 kilometers from Hanoi. At only 45 minutes drive from the capital, King's Island is high quality and convenient choice to include in any North Vietnam golf package. Access to the course is by boat, or car in the case of the Kings Course. The island golf complex situated site comprises 350 hectares of land and 1,500 hectares of waterfront.

Movenpick Hotel Hanoi is a colonial style hotel with excellent customer service and modernized décor.

The hotel has a perfect location for golfers, as golf courses are not far and everything worth seeing in Hanoi is close.

For a 5-star Hanoi hotel, Movenpick is an ideal choice for golfers and golf groups alike.

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FEATURED GOLF PACKAGE



Hanoi & Ho Chi Minh City Golf Package

Start and golf in Hanoi; the capital of Vietnam. Afterward, move south and golf in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's economic gateway. Play the best golf courses and explore these two famous cities. Each Vietnam golf course combines different challenges to make this a memorable Vietnam golf tour.

[View the complete tour itinerary](#)

GOLF TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

Amarl Hua Hin Skins Golf Week 10 - 16 Mar. 2019	Centara World Masters Golf Championship 9 - 15 Jun. 2019	AVANI Pattaya 2 Ball Golf Championship 16 - 22 Jun. 2019
AccorHotels Vietnam World Masters 8 - 14 Sep. 2019		Mercure Pattaya Men's Open Golf Week 15 - 21 Sep. 2019

CENTARA World Masters Golf Championship
9 - 15 June, 2019

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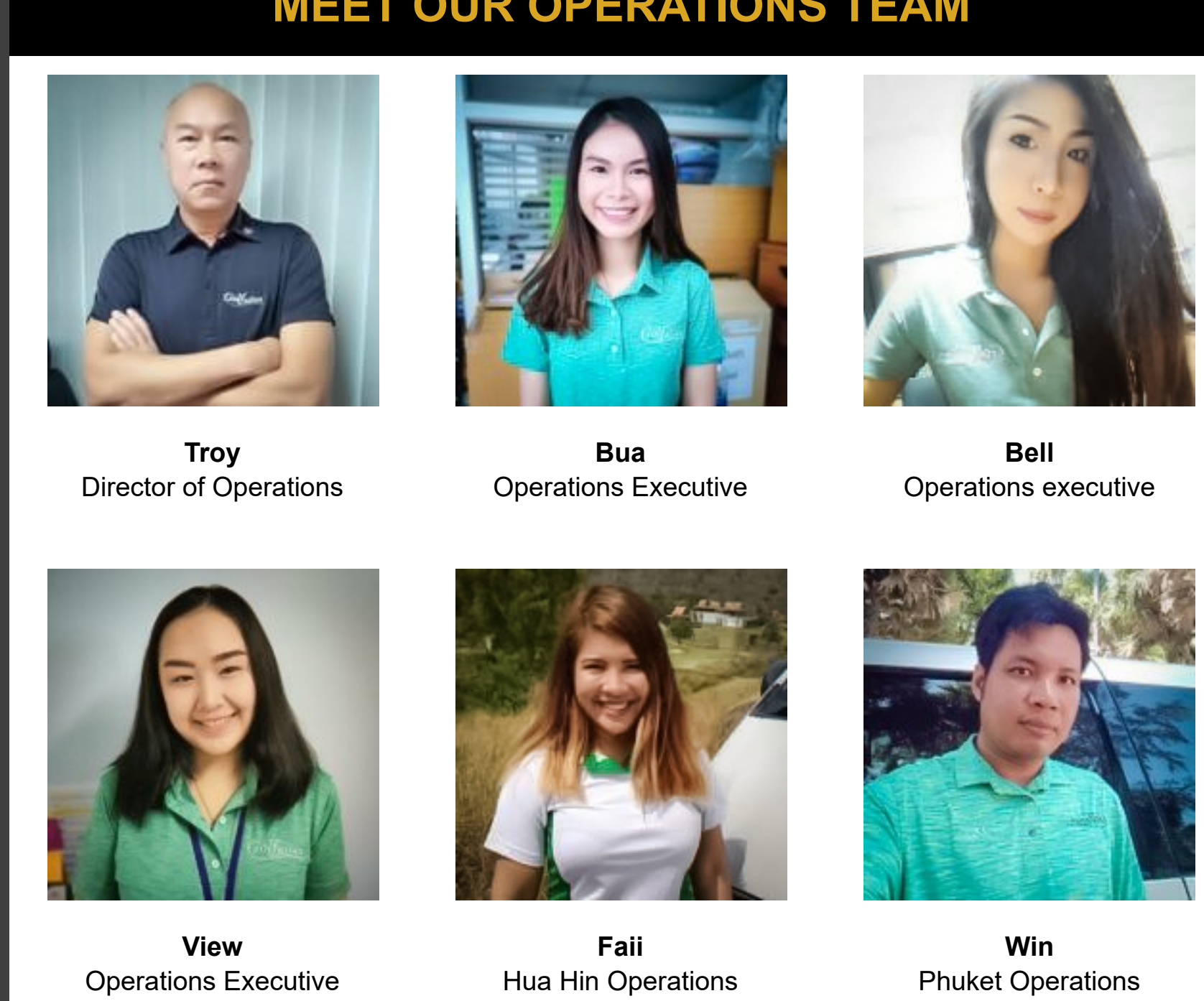
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