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World Golf Awards Winner 2018 – Asia's Best Golf Tour Operator | World Golf Awards Winner 2018 – Thailand's Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator | World Golf Awards Winner 2018 – Vietnam's Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator | World Golf Awards Winner 2018 – Indonesia's Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator

May 2019 Edition

Dear Golf Travelers,

Welcome to this issue of the Asian Golf Nation, the source for news breaking information about golf in SE 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.

Asian golfing is going from strength to strength as the region's popularity among golf travelers explodes due to its numerous advantages – from publicly accessible championship golf courses, world-class service, exciting and exotic culture, and most of all some of the best value-for-money packages among the world's golf holiday destinations. These attributes combine to yield unforgettable golf experiences for all those who visit.

May is one of the hottest months here. Temperatures can soar to 40 degrees centigrade during the day. Early or late starts can avoid some of the hottest hours. In any case, it pays to come prepared. Wear light clothes, drinks lots of water on the course (at least one 500ml bottle every two holes), and use an umbrella to keep the direct sun off your body. The latter is a must as this alone will drop temperatures 3-4 degrees and make your round more pleasant. Early tee starts before 7:00 AM can also help. At least you will have time to be in the swimming pool or on the beach all afternoon!

On our side, we continue to spread the word out about golf in Asia by completing four FAM trips to showcase the new golf in Myanmar, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Thailand. Golfasian also joined forces with the golf courses in Danang, Vietnam to promote golf in the central region of Vietnam to the world. Upcoming activities include a FAM trip for European travel agents and the first ever Danang Golf Festival. Please contact May for more details if you are interested.

Everyone wants that special golf trip for their holidays. Whether it's playing a ranked course or one seen on television, making friends with locals, or visiting the hidden sights and the hottest nightlife, Golfasian now has its collection of authentic 24/7 golf experiences available to take your golf trip to the next level.

Moreover, at Golfasian, we believe that not all quality experiences have to be expensive to be authentic. Just the opposite. Some of my fondest memories involve some of the least expensive golf and travel in Asia. Nevertheless, our team understands that matching your interests and budgets to inspirational golfing destinations is what matters most when it comes to creating a trip that works for you and one that will get you on your way to a perfect 2019 or 2020.

Finally, thanks to your support, Golfasian remains Asia's top golf tour operator. Your recognition of our exceptional service and excellent value of our tours and tournaments are just a few of the points that set us apart. Daily foot massages after golf are not bad either!!

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

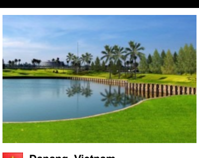
PLESE VOTE FOR US

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:

Asia's Best Golf Tour Operator – VOTE FOR US | Thailand's Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator – VOTE FOR US

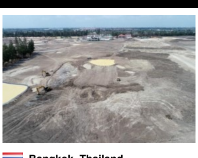
Vietnam's Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator – VOTE FOR US | Indonesia's Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator – VOTE FOR US

GOLF NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION



Danang, Vietnam

As part of a ten golf course strategic cooperation agreement, Nicklaus Design and BRG Group recently had a signing ceremony announcing its newest project in Quang Nam and an additional nine holes at Legend Hill in Hanoi. The new nine at BRG Danang Golf Resort is being cleared for construction and should open for play within 12 months. After that, the Danang golf resort will have a full 36-holes open for play, and golfers will be able to request either the original Greg Norman-designed course or the newer Nicklas design layout.



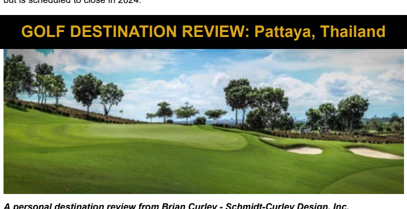
Bangkok, Thailand

Construction of Ballyshear Golf Links on the site of the former Kiarti Thani Golf Club is ongoing with massive earthworks. Once complete the new Bangkok golf course will be the first in Asia for world-renowned architect Gil Hanse who designed the golf course for the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. The golf course design was inspired by Lido Golf Club on Long Island, New York and will offer traditional links-style elements. Opening for play in early 2020, private membership sales is in progress.

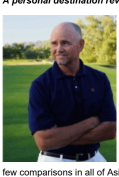
Singapore

Here is a unique concept. Marina Bay Golf Course adds a new spin to the game by offering two configurations within one golf course. Its current configuration will be known as Course A while the new configuration, Course B, just launched. While the individual hole layouts remain unchanged, the routing from hole to hole is different. Course A comprises an outer and inner loop of two sets of nine holes. Course B breaks up the two loops and has holes from the front nine mixed with holes from the back nine. The concept is similar to what Alpine Chiang Mai implemented a few years back when they added their third nine. However, it's confusing and of limited value as the order of play does not create a meaningful playing experience difference. Anyway, whatever your preference, it's a good time to play Marina Bay. The course is the #1 ranked public course in Asia but is scheduled to close in 2024.

GOLF DESTINATION REVIEW: Pattaya, Thailand



A personal destination review from Brian Curley - Schmidt-Curley Design, Inc.



I have always found Pattaya a fascinating and vibrant place to visit. The city pulsates with energetic nightlife for those who choose but also offers dramatic options of beaches and more relaxed environs.

For golf, Pattaya benefits from a large number of golf course options all within a close proximity so you can stay in one place and play multiple courses over multiple days without long drives, unlike much of the rest of Thailand where courses can often be remote.

This makes for a much more all -encompassing experience where time is spent on the course , on the beach, or hitting the city at night . This makes Pattaya truly a year-round resort golf destination with few comparisons in all of Asia.

Click for Pattaya Golf Holiday Inspirations

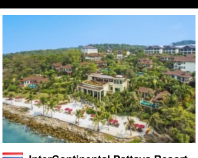
FEATURED GOLF COURSE & HOTEL

Siam Country Club, Rolling Hills

The Siam Country Club's Rolling Hills Course is located 2.5 kilometers past the Waterside Course on the way to Chee Chan Mountain. The Brian Curley designed track makes use of traditional elements more commonly found on mature parkland courses which have stood the test of time.

The front nine moves away from the clubhouse on relatively flattish land. It has more of an open feel to it with hardly any foliage or large trees on the property. Hole 5 is unique in it has two greens which can be switched in and out to change the length and difficulty.

Read More

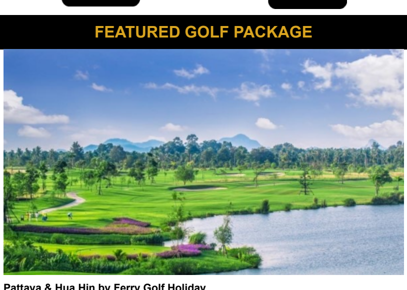


InterContinental Pattaya Resort

InterContinental Pattaya Resort is situated on the cliff end of Pattaya a little way from the hustle and bustle of Pattaya town with easy access to walking street and the Pattaya Pier. The luxurious self-contained Pattaya resort sits on a peninsula with 270-degree views out to sea and the offshore islands. The overwhelming aspect of the resort is the impeccable service, and discreet privacy afforded all golfers staying at this property. The InterContinental Pattaya is Ideal for golfers in Pattaya looking for the top in luxury, but still, having easy access to Pattaya's best golf courses and main entertainment and shopping areas.

Read More

FEATURED GOLF PACKAGE



Pattaya & Hua Hin by Ferry Golf Holiday

Golf at Thailand's two award-winning golfing destinations while cutting transfer times in less than half! The Pattaya & Hua Hin by Ferry golf holiday package includes the top golf courses in Pattaya and Hua Hin combined with stays at golf resorts or hotels in the center of the action. Sit back and relax its time to golf and enjoy.

View the complete tour itinerary

GOLF TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

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

Special for Golfasian Newsletter Subscribers:

DO YOU LOVE GOLF?
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MEET OUR CAMBODIA TEAM

Win Zaw
General Manager

Su
Golf Travel Expert

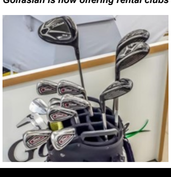
Jasmine
Golf Travel Expert

VIDEO OF THE MONTH

Check out the BRG King's Island in Hanoi with Ian Morgan. View Video Here.

DANANG RENTAL CLUBS

Golfasian is now offering rental clubs to golfers travelling to Vietnam's Central Coast.



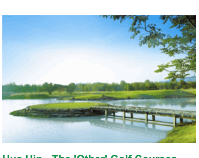
Due to popular demand and in an effort to make the golf holiday travel experience easier, Golfasian is now offering a wide variety of golf rental sets for both ladies & men in Danang, Vietnam.

Contact us today to reserve rental clubs for your next Danang golf holiday.

Book Danang Rental Clubs

BEST OF THE INTERNET

BEST OF OUR BLOGS

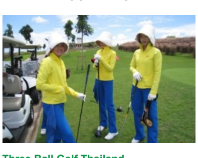


Hua Hin - The 'Other' Golf Courses

Just about all golfers in Hua Hin want to play the two area 5 star courses; Black Mountain and Banyan Golf Club. Next on the list and a notch below for most golfers are Springfield Royal and Palm Hills. Then there are the 'Other' courses. Some golfers skip them altogether, and if you are one who demands pristine country club conditions, luxurious clubhouses with lots of niceties and amenities and only modern designs, perhaps you should too. For the rest of us though these courses all have something to offer and can make for an enjoyable round of golf.

Read it all here!

GOLF TIPS



Three Ball Golf Thailand

In my view, and I am sure many of you will agree, the best form of golf in Thailand is a 'friendly' four-ball, better-ball with three like-minded pals.

The amicable banter and gamesmanship all go to make for a fun round, especially if there are a few bucks, or even the post-match round of drinks, riding on the result – in particular, in Thailand, if the caddies are encouraged to join in the wagering, say by doubling the tip of the caddies carrying for the winning pair.

Find Out Here!

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GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCES & CLOSURES

Thailand

Bangkok

- Cascata Golf Club: Course will be closed on 17 & 24 May for tournaments.
- Lam Luk Ka Country Club: Course will be closed on 30 May for a tournament.
- Lotus Valley Golf Resort: Course will be undergoing coring green on 8 May.
- Navatanee Golf Course: Course will be closed on 14 May for a tournament.
- Nikanti Golf Club: Course will be closed during 14-17 May for a tournament.
- Riverdale Golf Club: Course will be closed on 16 May for a tournament. Course will be undergoing coring greens on 21 May.
- Royal Golf & Country Club: Course will be undergoing coring greens during 3 June - 12 July.
- Subhapruek Golf Club: Course will be undergoing coring greens on holes 2, 6, 9, 11, 16 & 18 during 22 April - 15 May.
- Summit Windmill Golf Club: Course will be undergoing coring greens on holes 10-18 on 6 May.
- Suwan Golf & Country Club: Course will be closed on 8, 11 & 31 May for tournaments.
- Thai Country Club: Course will be closed during 13-16 June for a tournament.
- Thana City Country Club: Course will be closed on 9, 17, 22-23 & 29 May for tournaments.

Hua Hin

- Banyan Golf Club: Course will be closed during 5-7 December for a tournament.
- Black Mountain Golf Club: East Course will be undergoing annual maintenance during 22 April - 22 May. West Course will be undergoing annual maintenance during 1-30 June. North Course will be undergoing annual maintenance during 1 July - 31 July.
- Royal Hua Hin Golf Course: Course will be closed on 25 May, 1-7 & 27 July and 7 September for tournaments.
- Springfield Royal Country Club: Course will be closed on 9 May for a tournament.

Pattaya

- Khao Kheow Country Club: Course B will be undergoing maintenance during 1-31 May.
- Laem Chabang International Country Club: Course A will be undergoing maintenance during 1-31 May.
- Pattana Golf Club & Resort: Course C will be undergoing coring greens during 22 April - 10 May. Course B will be undergoing coring greens during 20 May - 7 June.
- St. Andrews 2000 Golf Club: Course will be closed during 1 May - 31 October for maintenance.

Phuket

- Laguna Golf Phuket: Course will be undergoing green verticut and topdressing during 28-28 May, 10 June and 24-25 June. Course will be closed during 13-19 May for the Singha Laguna Phuket Open.
- Loch Palm Golf Club: Course will be closed for maintenance until 31 October.

Chiang Mai

- Alpine Golf Resort Chiang Mai: Course will be undergoing coring greens during May.
- Chiang Mai Highlands Golf and Spa Resort: Course will be closed for a tournament in the afternoon of 25 May.
- Mae Jo Golf Club: Course will be closed on 17 June and 28 September for tournaments.

Khao Yai

- Royal Hills Golf Resort & Spa: Course will be undergoing coring greens during 27 May - 5 June.

Vietnam

Danang

- Ba Na Hills Golf Club: Course will be undergoing greens aerification during 10-20 June, fairway renovations during 17 June - 3 July, greens renovation during 1-7 July, fairway aerification during 8-22 July and greens renovation during 5-12 August.
- BRG Da Nang:Golf Resort: The Ocean Course (B) will be undergoing coring greens during 6-9 May and 8-11 July. The Dunes Course (A) will be undergoing coring greens during 27-30 May and 22-25 July. The Nicklaus Course (C) will be undergoing coring greens during 22-25 June and 12-15 August. Course will be holding the Vietnam World Masters on 12 September.
- Laguna Golf Lang Co: Course will be holding the 6th Laguna Golf Club Championship during 17-18 April, the Banyan Tree Belt Presentation by Titleist during 21-23 June, the Angsana Open during 23-24 August and the Cobra Puma Golf Pro Am during 20-22 September.
- Montgomerie Links Vietnam: Course will be undergoing coring greens during 9-11 June.

Dalat

- SAM Tuyen Lam Golf Club: Course will be closed during 26-29 September for the VPGA 2019 Championship.

Hai Phong / Halong Bay

- Song Gia Golf Resort & Country Club: Course will be closed during 23-24 May for the VDPG Tour.

Hanoi

- BRG Kings Island Golf Resort - Lakeside Course: Course will be undergoing maintenance during 11 March and coring greens during 15-18 April.
- Hilltop Valley Golf Club: Course will be closed during 7-10 May for the VPG Tour.
- Long Bien Golf Course: Course will be closed during 19-22 November for the VPG Tour.
- Sky Lake Resort & Golf Club: Course will be undergoing greens renovation on 13 & 27 May,
- Stone Valley Golf Resort: Course will be closed during 28-29 November for the VDPG Tour.

Ho Chi Minh City

- Harmonie Golf Park: Course will be holding the VDPG Tour during 19-20 September.
- Jeongsan Country Club: Course will be closed on 27 May for maintenance.
- Long Thanh Golf Club: Course will be undergoing coring greens during 13-22 May (holes 10-18 Lake Course), 20-31 May (holes 1-9 Hill Course) and 27 May - 12 June (holes 1-9 Lake Course). Course will be closed during 14-16 July for tournaments.
- The Bluffs Ho Tram Strip: Course will be closed on 12 October for a tournament.
- Twin Doves Golf Club: Course will be closed on 6 April for a tournament.
- Vietnam Golf & Country Club: West course will be closed on 22 April.
- West Lakes Golf & Villas: Course will be closed on 19 and 22-23 May for tournaments.

Indonesia

Bali

- Bali National Golf Club: Course will be closed during 22-23 June, 14 September and 14-15 October for tournaments.
- Handara Golf & Resort: Course will be closed on 30 June, 20 July, 18-19 August, 19-20 October, 2 November & 14 December for tournaments.
- New Kuta Golf: Course will be closed on 18 May, 17 August, 5 October, 9-10 November and 14 December for tournaments.
- Nirwana Bali Golf Club: Course will be closed until 31 July 2020 for major renovation.

Malaysia

Kuala Lumpur

- TPC KL, East Course: Course will be closed in the morning of 7 March and all day during 9-10 March for tournaments.
- Kota Permai Golf & Country Club: Course will be closed on 10 March for a tournament.
- Palm Garden Golf Club: Course will be closed in the mornings of 18, 19 & 24 March for tournaments.
- Kelab Golf Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah: Course will be closed on 10 & 23 March for tournaments.

Johor Bahru

- Tanjong Puteri Golf Resort, Plantation Course: Course will be closed in the mornings of 26-28 March for the Junior Open.

Kota Kinabalu

- Sutera Harbour Golf & Country Club: Course will be undergoing various maintenance in March. Course will be closed on 13 March for the Mercedes Tournament.

Cambodia

Siem Reap

- Angkor Golf Resort: Course will be closed in the mornings of 3-7 April for tournaments.
- Siem Reap Booyoung Country Club: Course will be closed on 5 April for a tournament.

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