

Footprints

MINOR HOTEL GROUP / ISSUE 5 / 2014

VIETNAM

A TREASURE TROVE
OF DISCOVERIES

ART

FIRST UNDERWATER
GALLERY

HOT LIST

AWARD-WINNING PLACES

BRISBANE

CITY OF FUN AND FOOD

MINOR HOTEL GROUP

HOTELS AND RESORTS,
WORLD CLASS SPAS AND
AWARD-WINNING
HOSPITALITY

MINOR HOTEL GROUP PCL.

A HOTEL OWNER, OPERATOR AND INVESTOR
WITH A PORTFOLIO OF MORE THAN
100 HOTELS AND RESORTS UNDER
THE ANANTARA, AVANI, OAKS,
PER AQUUM, ELEWANA COLLECTION,
FOUR SEASONS, ST.REGIS, MARRIOTT, AND
MINOR INTERNATIONAL BRANDS. TODAY
MINOR HOTEL GROUP OPERATES IN
13 COUNTRIES, INCLUDING AUSTRALIA,
NEW ZEALAND, CAMBODIA, CHINA, INDONESIA,
KENYA, MALDIVES, MOZAMBIQUE, SRI LANKA,
TANZANIA, THAILAND, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
AND VIETNAM.



ANANTARA HOTELS, RESORTS & SPAS

Luxurious and heartfelt hospitality. Embark on a journey rich with discovery at these unique destinations. Be it a quick city break or an extravagant once in a lifetime experience, Anantara offers indigenous and exotic retreats that draw on the locale's heritage.

ANANTARA.COM



AVANI HOTELS & RESORTS

Contemporary, relaxed and imaginative. Be it a leisurely family break or romantic escape, AVANI hotels and resorts provide the right space for relaxed and inspired comfort. Discerning service, relaxed dining and engaging recreation facilities for all guests are a given.

AVANIHOTELS.COM



OAKS HOTELS & RESORTS

A unique blend of city hotels in central locations and resort style accommodation in tourist destinations across Asia Pacific and the Middle East. For both short or longer stays, families and groups enjoy friendly service, superior accommodation and quality onsite leisure facilities.

OAKSHOTELSRESORTS.COM



ELEWANA COLLECTION

Each of the camps, lodges and hotels within the Elewana Collection offers unique accommodations of exceptional comfort. Their iconic locations provide any discerning world-traveller one of the most rewarding experiences they could wish for; close access to all the drama and spectacle of African wildlife.

ELEWANACOLLECTION.COM



PER AQUUM

Bold, imaginative and renowned for their trailblazing concepts such as the Maldivian underwater spa, a modern campsite dining experience or simply spectacular views of the Dubai city skyline from a boutique retreat set on a private polo estate.

PERAQUUM.COM



MSPA

MSpa International currently operates 41 spas in a diverse collection of exclusive worldwide properties. With current expansion projects underway in China, the Middle East, Africa and the Maldives, MSpa International has risen to become a leading international spa operator.

MSPA-INTERNATIONAL.COM



ANANTARA VACATION CLUB

Taking the Anantara Experience from a more moment in time to a prized possession the Anantara Vacation Club offers generation after generation the opportunity to explore stunning destinations with a multi-destination shared ownership club.

ANANTARAVACATIONCLUB.COM



MJETS

Convenience, flexibility and a more personalised service with Thailand's premier private jet service. Providing a full range of services to executive customers and their jets, a 2,000 sq ft. executive lounge offers a relaxing environment, luxurious services including shower facility and business centre for passengers and pilots.

MJETS.COM



WELCOME

We had a very exciting end to 2013 with some significant milestones for Minor Hotel Group marked by new resort openings in breathtaking destinations across Asia and Africa. In October we celebrated the opening of Anantara Angkor Resort & Spa, just 10 minutes away by car from the gateway of the eighth wonder of the world, Angkor Wat, Cambodia. To experience a sunrise over these ancient Khmer ruins is truly awe-inspiring.

One month later, Minor Hotel Group's 100th property was celebrated as we opened the doors to Anantara Chiang Mai Resort and Spa in the popular northern Thailand city of Chiang Mai. For a company that started only 35 years ago with one hotel in Thailand, this marks a magnificent achievement by a dedicated team of Partners and Associates who deliver excellent service day in, day out.

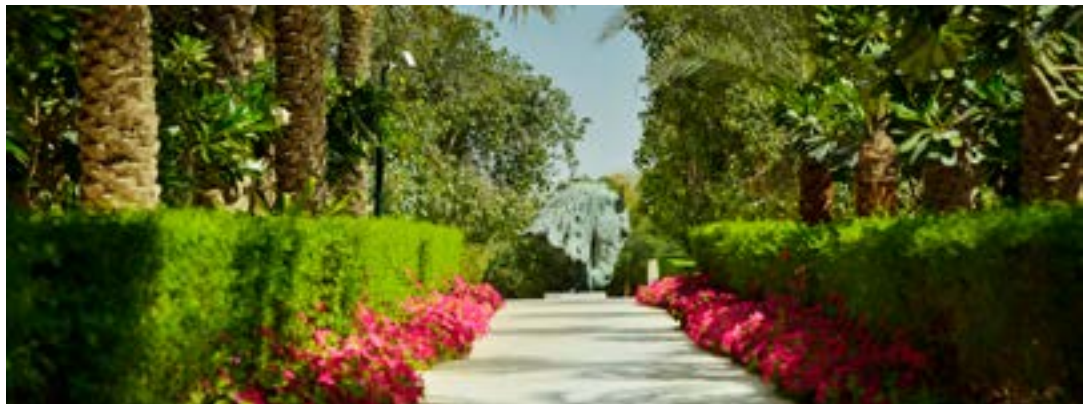
Moving over to Africa, the Sand River Masai Mara bush camp marks the expansion of Elewana Collection's luxury safari footprint into Kenya's famed Masai Mara National Reserve. We rounded off the year by introducing travellers to a wonderful retreat in the emerging destination of Mozambique and the first Anantara in Africa at Anantara Bazaruto Resort & Spa.

As we begin a new year, the atmosphere around Minor Hotel Group is abuzz with anticipation of more new openings and stimulating events. January sees the opening of our fourth AVANI, this time just outside Hanoi in Hai Phong, Vietnam, as well as Anantara's second location in Phuket, Thailand, on the beautiful northern beach of Layan.

In March, Per AQUUM invite us to broaden our minds and experience something completely new and ground breaking with an underwater art exhibition taking place at their two resorts in the Maldives. You don't have to be a diver to enjoy it; you just have to visit their underwater spa and restaurant. A teaser of what to expect can be found on page 10.

With so many things to look forward to, 2014 promises to be full of surprises and new horizons. I wish you all the very best for the year ahead and hope that we can continue to provide you with exciting, groundbreaking and yet relaxing ways to spend your holidays.

Dillip Rajakarier
CEO Minor Hotel Group



The lush green of the polo fields; sunset chukkas from a rooftop terrace; sunrise over the dunes; sensual Per AQUUM design. Set amidst green fields and palm trees, Desert Palm in Dubai offers unique accommodation - Arabia touched with the avant-garde. James Reeves, General Manager of Desert Palm shares his insider advice.

Are there any high profile events coming up?

There is always something high profile happening at Desert Palm, from fashion shows to exclusive car launches, but the key events for us are always Polo related. This Polo season we have the 10th year anniversary of the International Cartier Polo Cup, the Royal Salute Nations Cup and a new edition to the polo calendar in the form of the Ralph Lauren all ladies polo championship, a first for the Middle East.

What are four things every guest should experience at Desert Palm?

- Afternoon tea on the terrace whilst soaking up the live action from a game of Polo
- A LIME Spa journey, which have been described by some of our guests as the best spa experience they have ever had
- Dinner at Rare, our signature restaurant should not be missed
- A personal fitness session with one of our instructors followed by a relaxing walk around the estate, (make sure you take a camera as there is always something to photograph if you keep an eye out)

Is there any one particular activity in Dubai you would recommend to visitors?

The Platinum Heritage Desert Safari. This is a journey that will take you back in time to a period of 1950 open top Land Rover Defenders on a truly nomadic journey that the team at Platinum Heritage have carefully orchestrated to give you the ultimate true desert experience.

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Footprints is published by: Minor International PCL.
for distribution in Minor Hotel Group guest rooms
worldwide.

CONTENTS

VIETNAM	4
A TREASURE TROVE OF DISCOVERIES	
ELEMIS	6
EXPERT THERAPIES FOR GLOWING SKIN	
48 HOURS IN BRISBANE	7
CULTURE CAPITAL OF QUEENSLAND	
HOT LIST	8
AWARDS FROM 2013	
UNDERWATER ART	10
ENCHANTED BY AN PHANTASY FAIRYTALE	
SHAKEN ADVENTURES	11
COCKTAILS SHAPED BY CULTURES	
SAND RIVER MASAI MARA	12
LUXURY SAFARI WITH WILDLIFE AT YOUR DOORSTEP	
PATHS TO DISCOVERY	13
YOUR PASSPORT TO PRIVILEGED JOURNEYS	
CONCIERGE	14

BOOK YOUR TRAVEL ITINERARY ON ANANTARA.COM

It's never been easier to book your Anantara journey of discovery. Anantara Hotels & Resorts recently launched its itinerary booking functionality on anantara.com. Whether you are booking a few days in Bangkok followed by a weekend getaway in a private villa in Phuket or booking your desert hideaway at Qasr al Sarab before you journey on to Eastern Mangroves, its all easily bookable with our new functionality.

GHA DISCOVERY

GHA Discovery is the Anantara, AVANI and Per AQUUM partnership with Global Hotel Alliance. With over 350 partner hotels globally, there's a hotel almost everywhere you need one offering great rewards and benefits. A world of possibilities is yours to explore across 22 member hotel chains in the alliance. Join GHA Discovery today by going to anantara.com/discovery and start seeing the rewards.



VIETNAM: A TREASURE TROVE OF DISCOVERIES

HIGHLANDS OF EXOTIC WILDLIFE, FANTASTIC VISTAS AND FAST FLOWING RIVERS ATTRACT ADVENTURE ENTHUSIASTS. UNTOUCHED ISLANDS, SANDY BEACHES AND A DELICIOUS CUISINE LEAVE TOURISTS CRAVING FOR MORE.

Shaped like an elongated 'S' Vietnam covers the length of the Indochinese Peninsula and is full of UNESCO and world heritage sites bringing alive centuries of history. Following 2000 years of Chinese dominance the country gained independence in the 10th century, ushering in more than 800 years of dynastic rule followed by French colonisation in 1887. After the turbulent independence movement of the mid 20th century the country is now being embraced by the world for its open approach to business and tourism.

PLACES TO VISIT

Capital city Hanoi is often referred to as the 'Paris of the Orient'. Oozing with lakes, tree lined boulevards and French designed villas, this bastion of tradition limped toward the 21st century, weakened after decades of international isolationism as a result of the Indo China War.

Today, Hanoi is one of South East Asia's most energetic and colourful cities, spearheading one of the regions fastest growing economies. The Old Quarter is a buzzing hornets' nest of exciting nightlife and trading streets where traditional and modern goods are sold in centuries old houses.

A two-hour drive from Hanoi to the coast reveals one of Asia's natural wonders: Halong Bay. A world heritage site, the bay comprises a cluster of over 3,000 monolithic limestone islands rising dramatically from the ocean. Several of the islands feature giant caves beckoning forth the intrepid traveller on a journey of discovery.

Just over 700 miles to the south of Hanoi sits Ho Chi Minh City, the largest city and commercial hub of Vietnam. Formerly Saigon, this increasingly cosmopolitan city encapsulates the energy that drives Vietnam forward and is the launch pad for ventures to the coast where some of South East Asia's most pristine beaches are to be found, to the north in Mui Ne and to the south in Quy Nhon.

A BEACH LOVER'S PARADISE

Mui Ne offers the modern traveller an oasis of comfort along its pristine and sweeping beach. Explore hiking trails that meander through high rolling sand dunes, partake in water sports or simply soak up the sun amidst charming village life.

Midway between Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh is the enchanting city, Hoi An. Known as the 'Living Museum of Vietnam', this UNESCO listed town is a place lost in time. A major trading port of South East Asia from the end of the 16th century, Hoi An was populated and influenced architecturally by Japanese, French, Chinese and Vietnamese designs. Retaining its historic buildings and ancient backstreets it's become a favourite destination for travellers.

Further south some of the softest sand and clearest waters can be found in the bay of Quy Nhon. Small, uninhabited islands are within kayaking distance from the mainland shoreline, making this area a treasure trove of discoveries.



Pool Villa at Anantara Mui Ne Resort & Spa



AVANI Quy Nhon Beach at sunrise

TRAVEL GUIDE

WHEN TO GO

Vietnam's weather is diverse with frosts and occasional snow in the north and temperatures reaching 40 degrees in the south. The winter monsoon brings chilly weather to the north from October to March and the summer monsoon bringing hot, humid weather to the whole country from May to October. April, May and October offer the best balance, but much depends on your personal choice. Some like it hot, others don't. The high season is November to March and July to August, with travel prices peaking over Christmas and New Year.

WHERE TO STAY

Minor Hotel Group has four stunning hotels and resorts under the Anantara and AVANI brands. Culturally rich experiences surround Anantara Hoi An Resort, beautiful beaches and spa treatments flourish at Anantara Mui Ne Resort & Spa as well as AVANI Quy Nhon Resort & Spa, and in the north AVANI Harbour View Hai Phong offers the perfect base for business and leisure outside Hanoi with excursions to Ha Long Bay.

EXCURSIONS

Whichever resort you choose in Vietnam you'll be spoilt for choice: Mountains to the north, beaches to the south, historical and world heritage sites throughout the country... the list is endless.

TRANSFERS

Trains, planes and automobiles link all the major cities together while taxi services are readily available, though it should be pointed out, a good haggler will lower the cost of a taxi fare considerably. It's all part of the adventure. Quy Nhon airport is served by daily flights just an hour from Ho Chi Minh and Ha Noi.

CURRENCY

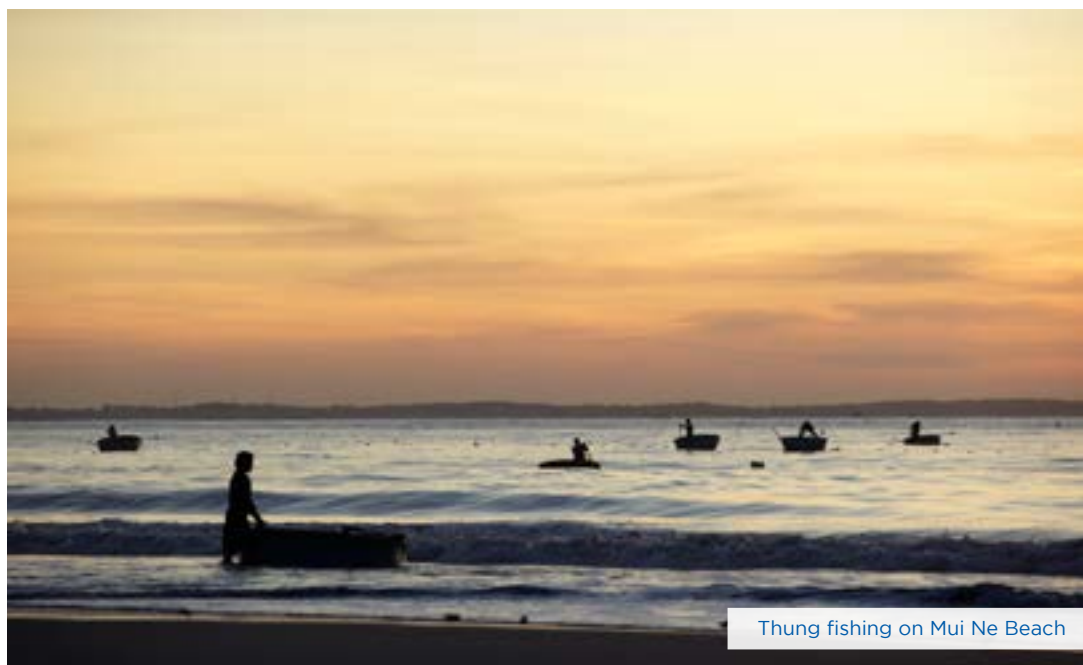
The Vietnamese dong (VND) has been the currency of Vietnam since 1978 and most travellers delight in the experience of becoming a millionaire in local currency on arrival. Over the past few years the Vietnamese dong has hovered at a steady exchange rate around VND 21,000 to USD 1. Most major hotels and high-end shops will accept the US dollar.

LOCAL LAWS, ETIQUETTE

In Vietnam, touching someone's head is frowned upon, as is passing anything over someone's head and any touch of the shoulder. Public displays of affection are considered offensive. If invited to someone's house gifts of fruits, sweets, flowers or incense, preferably wrapped up in colourful paper will receive a warm welcome.



Japanese Bridge in Hoi An



Thung fishing on Mui Ne Beach



ELEMIS

EXPERT THERAPIES FOR GLOWING SKIN

STRESS, POLLUTION, AGE AND EXPOSURE TO THE SUN ALL TAKE A TOLL ON THE SKIN, AND OUR FACES SUFFER MOST FROM THESE ADVERSE FACTORS. SOMETIMES WE NEED DEDICATED HELP AND ATTENTION TO LOOK OUR BEST.

A facial carried out by a skilled therapist using top quality skincare products can provide just the tonic skin needs to look refreshed and rejuvenated. That's why all Anantara spas offer facials from luxury British skincare brand Elemis. Elemis combines natural active ingredients with cutting-edge technology to create highly effective anti-ageing products and professional spa therapies.

Elemis facials blend the potency of Elemis' renowned skincare products with the skilled attentions of a highly-trained therapist. A facial in the calm, soothing environment of a spa begins with the destressing process as the transition from everyday life to a quiet haven of relaxation takes place. A choice of purifying, calming, resurfacing, lifting and brightening facials enable a specialised approach to each skin type's particular needs. This spa journey is designed to supply guests with the tools they need to maintain the positive effects long after the facial itself: each consultation includes an explanation of techniques and products to use at home.

Each Elemis product is derived from the natural world and refined by scientific research and development to optimise the beneficial effects. Product lines range from the dedicated Time Out for Men to the highly successful group of Pro-Collagen products which offers specific anti-ageing products for eyes, lips, neck and bust.



The Elemis Pro-Intense range has recently been augmented by the arrival of Elemis' latest innovation, Elemis Pro-Intense Lift Effect Night Cream. This rich cream harnesses the science of plant stem cell technology to target the sagging of jowls, cheeks and chin, also working overnight to stimulate cells' biological energy cycle to deliver a lift effect. Already garnering a strong following amongst beauty enthusiasts, Pro-Intense Lift Effect Night Cream is particularly beneficial for densifying and defining the chin line, and looks set to join Elemis Pro-Collagen Marine Cream as one of Elemis' most popular products.

Elemis products and facials are available in Anantara Spas around the globe. Visitors to Bangkok may experience the full range of Elemis body treatments at MSPA's dedicated Elemis Spa at St. Regis Bangkok, one of only three Elemis spas in the world and the only one in Asia. Here guests can rest in the Relaxation Zone featuring steam room, cold plunge pool, Jacuzzi, experience showers, foot ritual pool and suspended relaxation pods to create the perfect relaxing environment to enjoy before and after treatment.

MSPA-INTERNATIONAL.COM





48 HOURS IN BRISBANE

CULTURE CAPITAL OF QUEENSLAND

WITH A CLOSE KNIT, BUSTLING CITY CENTRE AND MULTIPLE CITY FRINGE PRECINCTS OFFERING A MYRIAD OF ATTRACTIONS TO ENJOY, HERE ARE OUR TOP PICKS NOT TO BE MISSED.

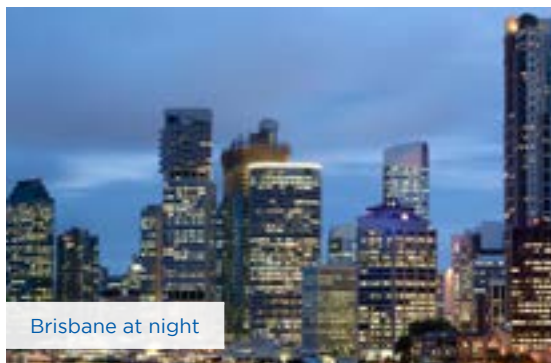
Brisbane's balmy weather and picturesque 'River City' landscape attracts travellers year round, but it is also the city's unique art, culture and history, world-class entertainment, international sporting events and iconic Queensland cuisine that positions Brisbane as an ideal destination for an action packed weekend, mid-week break or a more leisurely longer stay.

ARTS & CULTURE

The Queensland Art Gallery of Modern Art is an enriching cultural experience and home to some of the world's best exhibitions. Running until May 2014, be sure to check out distinguished international contemporary artist Cai Guo-Qiang who, in an Australian first and must-see event, will present an exclusive out-of-this-world exhibition, featuring 99 life-sized replicas of animals from all around the world.



Oaks Felix exterior



Brisbane at night

DINING

Foodies need look no further than the Eagle Street Pier. A smorgasbord of alfresco restaurants, sophisticated bars and bustling pubs overlooking the illuminated Story Bridge leave hungry visitors spoilt for choice. This is also a great place to grab a coffee on a Sunday morning before wandering through the Riverside Markets.

SHOPPING FIX

Queen Street Mall is the shop-a-holic's dream with over 700 speciality stores, including popular international and Australian designers, one-off boutiques and flagship department stores. It's also the perfect vantage point from which to watch the world go by while enjoying a meal or cold beverage from one of the fresh-food delis, open-air cafes or laneway beer and wine gardens.

A CHANGE OF PACE

Home to some of Australia's most beautiful blooms, manicured gardens, walking paths and shaded picnic spots, the City Botanic Gardens is a crowd-pleaser with not only out-of-towners but locals alike.

SPORT

For sporting enthusiasts, Brisbane serves up year-round action; from rugby games and soccer matches at the state-of-the-art Suncorp Stadium, cricket tests at the famous 'Gabba', international tennis championships at the Queensland Tennis Centre and heart-stopping horse racing at Eagle Farm and Doomben.

THEATRE

At the forefront of Brisbane's cultural hub is the legendary Queensland Performing Arts Centre (QPAC), bound to whet the appetite of all theatre, music and dance-lovers with an impressive lineup of international smash hit musicals, opera, ballet, comedy and family-friendly performances.

GETTING AROUND

Oaks Felix and its seven sister Oaks Hotels & Resorts' properties in the city offer an appealing combination of stylishly appointed, self-contained apartments, unmasked city and river views and premier leisure facilities. Each property is perfectly positioned to access Brisbane's myriad sights and experiences by foot, but for those who would prefer a faster pace, why not hop on the back of a bicycle? Brisbane Bicycle Tours offers a different perspective from which to explore the city. For the less adventurous, a range of public and private transport options are available and located within steps of most Oaks Hotels & Resorts when looking to get the most out of a 48 hour visit to this vibrant city.

OAKSHOTELSRESORTS.COM



Anantara Bangkok Sathorn

A WORLD FAMOUS LINE UP OF THE GREATEST CHOICES, THE HOTTEST LIST AND YOUR FAVOURITE PLACES

2012 AND 2013 HAVE BEEN GREAT YEARS FOR MINOR HOTEL GROUP WITH READERS AND GUESTS NOMINATING A STAGGERING NUMBER OF HOTELS AND RESORTS FOR SOME OF THE WORLD'S TOP TRAVEL AND TOURISM AWARDS. CASTING THEIR VOTE FOR THE BEST OF THE BEST, THE FOLLOWING ACCOLADES ARE JUST SOME OF THE RECENT HIGHLIGHTS.

ANANTARA HOTELS, RESORTS & SPAS

Immersing guests in the rich cultures, breathtaking nature and fascinating heritage of exotic destinations, Anantara's luxurious hideaways have been firm award favourites.

ANANTARA BANGKOK SATHORN • THAILAND

This upscale hotel was crowned Thailand's Leading Lifestyle Hotel in the World Travel Awards Asia & Australasia 2013. Located in the heart of Thailand's bustling capital, the hotel boasts double the appeal as Bangkok was voted number 1 city yet again by Travel + Leisure Magazine.



ANANTARA GOLDEN TRIANGLE ELEPHANT CAMP & RESORT • THAILAND

Overlooking the mighty Mekong River in northern Thailand's legendary Golden Triangle, this resort has received widespread recognition. In Travel + Leisure's August 2013 World's Best Awards it was 10th in the Top Hotel Spas Overall list, and 4th in the Top 5 Hotel Spas in the Asia category. While in the Condé Nast Traveller USA 26th annual Readers' Choice Awards, the resort was listed 16th in the Top 25 Resorts in Asia.

ANANTARA LAWANA KOH SAMUI RESORT & SPA • THAILAND

Looking for a place to propose, marry or honeymoon? This tropical island hideaway, inspired by Samui's Chinese merchant heritage, was hailed Asia's Most Romantic Resort in the World Travel Awards Asia & Australasia 2013.

ANANTARA PHUKET VILLAS • THAILAND

While making the top list for the best skinny dippy private pool villas, Condé Nast Traveller featured this indulgent all-pool villa lagoon oasis in renowned Phuket in its 2013 Gold List.



ANANTARA HOI AN RESORT •VIETNAM

Located in the charming colonial town of Hoi An by the Thu Bon River, this hotel won the Hotel Award of the Year for 2012 from the Ministry of Culture, Sport & Tourism of Vietnam.



ANANTARA XISHUANGBANNA RESORT & SPA • CHINA

Featured in DestinAsian's 2013 Luxe List, this luxury resort is nestled in primeval forest and offers a gateway to astonishing natural beauty and rich folkloric traditions.

QASR AL SARAB DESERT RESORT BY ANANTARA • ABU DHABI

A palatial mirage in the vast Liwa Desert, this resort rose above stiff competition such as Emirates Palace to be joint number 2 with Burj Al Arab in the Condé Nast Traveller USA 26th annual Readers' Choice Awards for Resorts in the Middle East.

ANANTARA VACATION CLUB

Proving it's the cream of the crop, Anantara Vacation Club Phuket Mai Khao won Best Shared Ownership Development in both the 2013 Thailand Property Award and 2013 South East Asia Award, as well as a Highly Recommended for Best Architectural Design.



AVANI

The brand is only two years old but it's already sharing the awards podium. AVANI offers all the right ingredients for relaxing in resort and city locations, with a focus on the details that really matter.

AVANI BENTOTA RESORT & SPA • SRI LANKA

Originally designed by renowned architect Geoffrey Bawa, AVANI Bentota proved that its inimitable Dutch-colonial charm is matched by outstanding service, by being crowned the best Luxury Beach Resort in Sri Lanka at the annual Luxury Hotel Awards 2013.



ELEWANA COLLECTION



2012 and 2013 saw the Elewana Collection nominated as Africa's Leading Boutique Hotel Brand in the annual World Travel Awards, which is recognised globally as the hallmark of quality, with winners setting the benchmark to which all others aspire. Comprising luxury camps and lodges, unique safari adventures are accompanied by coffee plantation and exotic beach retreats.



AFROCHIC DIANI BEACH • KENYA

Edging one of the world's most beautiful beaches on Kenya's coast, this shoreline retreat was a nominee in the Africa's Leading Beach Resort category of the World Travel Awards 2013, and in 2012 this stunning property was rated the Top Hotel In East Africa in the Trip Advisor Travellers' Choice based on readers' comments and reviews.

ARUSHA COFFEE LODGE • TANZANIA

In a region dominated by safari adventures, Arusha Coffee Lodge stands out for its unique offering. Nestled in one of Tanzania's largest coffee plantations at the base of volcanic Mount Meru, the lodge debuted on the Travel + Leisure World's Best list in the Top Lodges and Resorts in the Africa and Middle East category in August 2013.

PER AQUUM

Created for the most discerning tastes, this supremely luxurious boutique brand is renowned for its cutting edge design, unparalleled facilities and iconic locations.



HUVAFEN FUSHI • MALDIVES

This flagship property boasts an underwater spa and salt water floatation pool, and appeared in The World's Top 100 in the Reader's Travel Awards 2013.



DESERT PALM - DUBAI

Situated in an exclusive polo estate, this elegant hotel won Wine Spectator's Rare Restaurant in the Wine List Awards 2013.

NIYAMA • MALDIVES

Boasting a floating restaurant 500 metres offshore and the world's first underwater music club, Niyama ranked in the Condé Nast Traveller Hot List (UK) 2013, Condé Nast Traveller Hot List (USA) 2013, Condé Nast Traveller Hot List Hot Spas (USA) 2013, Diners Club Quality Award (Germany) 2013 - 2014, Tatler (UK) Best New Sensation 2013 and in the DestinAsian's 2012 Luxe List.

UNDERWATER ART ENCHANTED BY A PHANTASY FAIRYTALE

PER AQUUM'S STUNNING NIYAMA AND HUVAFEN FUSHI HOST THE WORLD'S FIRST UNDERWATER RESORT EXHIBITION OF ART CREATED IN THE OCEAN AS PART OF THE EXCITING 2014 DREAM CALENDAR.

Plunge into the surreal and mysterious world of award-winning artist Andreas Franke. Underwater submarine photography creates an eerie backdrop for the Phantasy Fairytale of Snow White, Little Red Riding Hood and the Snow Queen. Submerged in an underwater exhibition, each piece blurs the boundaries between reality and fantasy, with saltwater and algae adding the final artistic touches to the beauty of each piece. Designed for unique guest experiences Phantasy Fairytale exhibits at both Huvafen Fushi and NIYAMA from 4th March 2014 to the end of May 2014.

Guests can sink into the luxury of underwater LIME Spa at Huvafen Fushi or the excitement of the world's first underwater club, Subsix, at NIYAMA. Here they can explore each suspended underwater piece in its true watery environment, as the underwater resort space adds yet another layer of intrigue. The exhibition offers a unique opportunity to relax with a spa treatment or to dance the night away as each Phantasy Fairytale character draws guests into an enchanting, atmospheric tale of magic, mystery and make-believe.



Award-winning Vienna-based visual artist, Andreas Franke, magically combines photography, digital mastery and CGI to create mesmerising underwater dream worlds to get lost in. Viewing underwater art in an underwater exhibition creates a unique artistic experience where the world above becomes a land far far away.

"With my photographs, I want to pull the spectators into unreal and strange worlds. Mystified scenes of a fairytale play within a fictional space. This creates a new and unexpected atmosphere. This work shows very much of myself, since I am always on the lookout for stunning themes to create new images that have never been seen before," explains Andreas.

Per AQUUM's commitment to environmental awareness in the Maldives continues with sensitively hung artworks which preserve the coral reefs and nature's underwater balance. A percentage of proceeds from purchases will be donated to Per AQUUM's Coral Regeneration Program.

SHAKEN ADVENTURES COCKTAILS SHAPED BY CULTURES

FROM CLASSIC RECIPES TO TROPICAL SUNDOWNERS BEST SAVOURED BAREFOOT ON SOFT SANDS, THE MERE MENTION OF A COCKTAIL CONJURES UP IMAGES THAT ARE TEMPTINGLY EVOCATIVE.

In an inventive bid to scintillate our taste buds, mixologists are constantly seeking new inspiration with travel inspired cocktails to bring unexpected blends of spicy, sweet, zesty and pungent indigenous ingredients into the mix. Beyond the best examples of classic recipes, travellers who prefer a flavourful local adventure can shake up their journey with cocktails that tell rich destination stories. Anantara's luxury beach, city, jungle and desert hideaways across Asia, the Maldives, Middle East and Africa answer the calling for a "sundowner" with a sense of indulgent discovery.

THE TROPICAL ISLAND OF KOH SAMUI IN THAILAND

*"Lychee Sphere" served at Anantara Lawana
Koh Samui Resort & Spa*

Mixing Ketel One Vodka, lychee liqueur, lychee juice, lime juice, sugar syrup and Perrier, this refreshing tropical cocktail is the perfect companion while drinking in an ocean view at the pool bar.

THE WORLD FAMOUS PARADISE OF THE MALDIVES

"Tom Ka Gai Colada" served at Anantara Kihavah Villas

Blending ginger, coconut syrup monin, coconut cream lopez, milk, Smirnoff vodka, lime leaves, lemongrass, basil leaves, coriander, water and red chili, this lively concoction blends a touch of Thai culture with tropical Maldivian ingredients.

A DESERT OASIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

*"Spice Route Nog" served at Qasr Al Sarab Desert
Resort by Anantara*



Inspired by ancient Arabian spice trails, try a mixture of Barcardi 151, nutmeg powder, sugar, dates, Arabic coffee, water, Monin vanilla syrup, green cardamon, star anise, cloves, cinnamon sticks, Seven Spices Le Gourmet, camel milk, honey and eggs.

RIVERSIDE TRANQUILITY IN BUSTLING BANGKOK

*"Shade of Shore" served at Anantara Bangkok Riverside
Resort & Spa*



Taking the lovely shade of purple from butterfly pea flowers, this molecular specialty is served by pouring infused Tanqueray gin, lime juice and elderflower syrup over ice before topping up with tonic water. Adding a dash of drama, a pot of tea fog is poured over the cocktail to further entice the sense of smell.

TRY IT AT HOME

"Beer Jar Margarita" served at Anantara Kihavah Villas

Ingredients

- 40ml Lime Juice
- 50ml Sugar Syrup
- 20ml Tequila Gold
- 30ml Grand Marnier
- 330ml Beer (Lion)
- 40ml Lemon Juice
- 40ml Tequila White
- 5ml Bitters
- 10ml Fresh Orange

Method

- Slice the lemon and lime into two and squeeze out the juice. Put both freshly squeezed juices into a cocktail shaker together with the remaining lime
- Add in the rest of the ingredients; sugar syrup, bitters, Tequila White & Gold, Grand Marnier, fresh orange juice and ice
- Shake hard for 5-7 seconds
- Pour the mix straight into a jar. Fill $\frac{3}{4}$ of the jar with ice cubes
- To serve, pour beer into the jar and sprinkle some pink Himalayan salt to finish
- Sit back, sip and dream of the Maldives



SAND RIVER MASAI MARA

LUXURY SAFARI WITH WILDLIFE AT YOUR DOORSTEP

THE EXTRAORDINARY ANNUAL GREAT MIGRATION OF OVER TWO MILLION WILDEBEEST AND OTHER GRAZING HERBIVORES ACROSS THE SERENGETI-MARA ECOSYSTEM IS ONE OF THE GREATEST AND WELL DOCUMENTED NATURAL WONDERS OF THE WORLD.

For anyone wishing to enjoy exceptional game viewing, Sand River Masai Mara is an ideal destination at any time of the year. The Masai Mara National Reserve is best known for its large concentrations of big cats, such as leopard, cheetah and lion. Another exceptional feature is its colourful inhabitants, the Masai – a proud semi nomadic, cattle rearing people with a fascinating culture. The Masai are an ever-present reminder of the history and cultural heritage of this sublime and enigmatic landscape, and leave a lasting impression for all.



Sand River Masai Mara forms part of the Elewana Collection, Minor Hotel Group's bespoke collection of camps and lodges in Tanzania and Kenya that have been carefully selected for their unique accommodations and iconic locations to provide unparalleled African wildlife-viewing opportunities with an emphasis on stylish and luxurious comfort.



The recent opening of the Sand River Masai Mara bush camp marks the expansion of Elewana Collection's luxury safari footprint into Kenya's famed Masai Mara National Reserve. The collection's eighth property, Sand River Masai Mara is situated on the banks of a river from which it has taken its name, on the most northerly route of the Great Migration and close to the border of the Serengeti National Park.

The new bush camp perfectly complements the collection's luxurious tented camps in the neighbouring Serengeti – Serengeti Migration Camp and Serengeti Pioneer Camp – to ensure exemplary and unfettered access to the African spectacular. The three camps are able to both track and then share knowledge of the migration's exact location, thus maximising the all important game viewing opportunities and time.

Comprising 16 tented accommodations, including a two-bedroom family suite, Sand River Masai Mara is divided into two separate adjoining campsites, each with its own dining and public areas. The smaller six-tented camp is ideal for private groups and families. The camp was designed and styled to reflect the heydays of exclusive, permanent tented camps of the 1920's and 1930's, with interior fixtures and furnishings creating a grandiose colonial mood that is reminiscent of the Hollywood movies that paid homage to this classic era of African adventure. The unexpectedly large tented rooms have been carefully placed to endow guests with unlimited privacy and blend effortlessly into nature's architecture.

ELEWANACOLLECTION.COM

PATHS TO DISCOVERY

YOUR PASSPORT TO PRIVILEGED JOURNEYS

MEMBERSHIP REWARDS

Gold

Join for free and start enjoying the instant benefits of complimentary internet access, bottled water and a daily newspaper.

Platinum

Enjoy these additional rewards after staying 10 nights or more in GHA hotels in a calendar year.

- Guaranteed room availability, room upgrade, late 3:00 pm check-out and a local amenity
- Platinum Local Experience Award, for example: Renew Me Ayurvedic Massage at AVANI Bentota Resort & Spa in Sri Lanka
Two-hour full body Abhyanga Massage using a specially blended oil and a Champissage Indian Head Massage
- Earn additional Platinum Local Experience Awards every time you stay at another GHA hotel brand for the first time

Black

Stay 30 nights or more in GHA hotels in a calendar year to enjoy even more benefits.

- Early 9:00 am check-in, late 6:00 pm check-out, guaranteed room availability, a double room upgrade and your personal choice of local amenity
- Black Local Experience Award, for example: Underwater Wine Tasting at Anantara Kihavah Villas in the Maldives; The Wine Guru shares his passion for distinctive wines in the resort's exclusive underwater wine cellar and restaurant 'Sea'.
- Earn more elite Black Local Experience Awards every time you stay at a GHA hotel brand for the first time



Sea Restaurant, Anantara Kihavah Villas

In today's globetrotting world, it's all about impressing guests and securing their continued loyalty. So what does it take to stand out and attract attention?

As the travel industry evolves, so do travellers' expectations. With a desire to delve beneath the surface of the destinations we visit and receive recognition that feels tailored to our needs, it seems that personalised experiences are the route to unforgettable getaways.

For leisure and business travellers looking for a loyalty scheme that delivers more than the typical hotel benefits, the Global Hotel Alliance (GHA) offers a number of key differences that make travel prospects more exciting and richly interactive.

In an industry where extra incentives are expected, going beyond the norm is a must. GHA achieves this through its innovative GHA Discovery Programme of advancing membership levels. Based on the number of nights stayed, each tier accrues not only accumulative hotel rewards, but also intriguing local experiences.

These are tailored to guest's specific tastes based on regular guest requests, so that each activity is personally satisfying and inspiring based on the region and property offerings.

With a collection of 22 upscale and luxury regional hotel brands in 61 countries across more than 350 hotels, palaces and resorts, including Anantara, AVANI and Per AQUUM, as well as partnership benefits with the world's leading airlines and car rental agencies, GHA is the world's largest alliance of independent hotel brands. 3.6 million members are reaping the advantages of the GHA Discovery Programme, and they didn't pay a penny to sign up. Open to anyone and everyone, membership is free and offers an increasingly valuable passport to journeys with a difference.

To start enjoying the benefits of GHA Discovery membership, find out more and sign up for free visit anantara.com/discovery

TRAVEL TIPS

TURNING EXPECTATIONS INTO MEMORIES OF QUALITY SERVICE AND UNIQUE EXPERIENCES. OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM AT EACH OF THE LOCATIONS IS READY TO ASSIST IN ANY WAY TO MAKE YOUR STAY WITH US AS MEMORABLE AS POSSIBLE.

PLEASE CONTACT THE LOCAL CONCIERGE FOR THE LATEST EVENTS AND OFFERS.



PERFECT GIFTS FOR CHERISHED OCCASIONS

Discover Anantara eGift cards for every occasion and share the luxurious world of Anantara. Select the perfect card online from our collection of beautiful designs. Wish someone happy birthday, send a token of appreciation and say congratulations or celebrate Valentine's Day, a wedding or an anniversary with a romantic gesture. Choose an eGift Card from USD 50 to USD 5,000, which can be spent on delicious dining, indulgent spa journeys and select activities at any Anantara hotel, resort or Spa. Create a personal message and state the delivery date. Then make a payment online and leave the rest to us. An amazing gift is just a click away at egiftcard.anantara.com

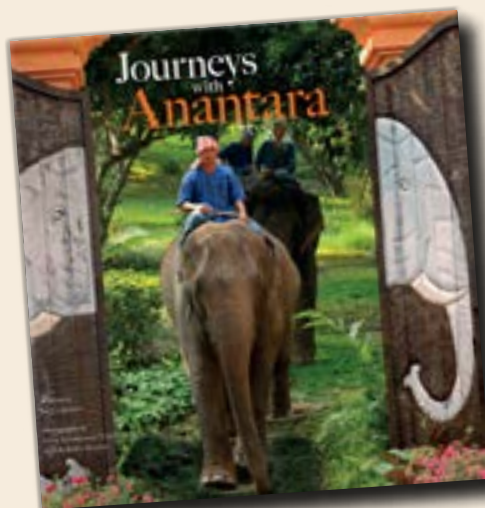
CELEBRATING ROMANCE

Planning to propose, say "I do" or celebrate your love in a distinct style? Inspired Celebrations is Anantara's offering for a range of personalised proposal, wedding and anniversary occasions in unique and memorable ways while embracing the colourful culture and breathtaking nature of some of the world's most exotic destinations. With Anantara you can create the most romantic moments you'll be talking about for the rest of your lives. Explore the options at anantara.com/weddings



DOLLARS FOR DEEDS

Whether it's rescuing street elephants in Thailand or marine turtle protection in Phuket, Anantara is dedicated to carrying out a corporate social responsibility programme at a grassroots level. 'Dollars for Deeds' invites guests to combine their Anantara stay in Thailand with opportunities to participate in a range of good deeds that help local communities and the environment by donating one dollar for every night of their stay.



JOURNEYS WITH ANANTARA

In this 220-page travel book exploring six countries and 23 destinations, photographers Luca Tettoni, Alberto Cassio and writer Joe Cummings take you on a voyage of discovery throughout all the unique stopovers Anantara has established for travellers who seek not just to consume the world, but to experience it. Available for purchase at all Anantara hotels and resorts for USD 45.00

TAKE A STEP BACK IN TIME

Uncover Cambodia's rich past and the Eighth Wonder of the World. In the peaceful town of Siem Reap, discover the beauty of the magnificently preserved Angkor Wat temples. Experience the magic unfold at sunrise over these awe-inspiring Khmer Empire ruins and enjoy the informative guided tours with a stay at Anantara Angkor Resort & Spa.



BRING YOUR SENSE OF ADVENTURE TO MOZAMBIQUE

A trio of attractions – vast game parks, pristine beaches and a colourful capital city – help make Mozambique the perfect destination. In a jewel-like archipelago off the coast of Mozambique Anantara's first resort in Africa is immersed in natural beauty, laid back island life and offers unforgettable experiences. Spectacularly high sand dunes tempt the more adventurous traveller to clamber up the towering works of wind-blown art and take to the dune board coming back down at exhilarating speed.



EXPLORE THE LANNA KINGDOM

Just an hour's flight to the north of Bangkok, Chiang Mai is not only considered the cultural capital of Thailand but also the capital of the Lanna Kingdom. This ancient destination is a favourite spot for those looking to glimpse into the past. Packed with temples, art galleries and northern-style Thai restaurants, the Anantara Chiang Mai Resort & Spa offers a great escape from the hustle and bustle of Bangkok. A trip outside the city's ancient walls reveals lush hills, home to tribal villagers and sprawling fields.

MINOR HOTEL GROUP

Wherever your suitcase takes you, from luxury to family-friendly or from extended stay and once-in-a-lifetime adventures, you are sure to find the perfect hotel and resort with The MHG family of brands.

ANANTARA.COM | AVANIHOTELS.COM | OAKSHOTELSRESORTS.COM | PERAQUUM.COM | ELEWANACOLLECTION.COM | ANANTARAVACATIONCLUB.COM | MJETS.COM

CONCIERGE

WHERE IS YOUR NEXT DESTINATION?

MINOR HOTEL GROUP IS OPENING NEW HORIZONS IN EXCITING AND DEVELOPING DESTINATIONS IN 2014. HERE IS A SNEAK PREVIEW OF TRAVEL EXPERIENCES TO START PLANNING.

AUSTRALIA



1

Oaks Grand

Opening early 2014

Adding to the sweeping views over Gladstone Harbour, entertainment and leisure facilities, The Grand's renovation under Oaks includes state-of-the-art function and event spaces. Rebranding in early 2014 as Oaks Grand with the addition of 144 one bedroom apartments to the existing offering, when complete, the accommodation choices will offer unrivalled views of the surrounding Gladstone region.

OAKSHOTELSRESORTS.COM

CHINA



2

Anantara Emei Resort & Spa

Opening early 2014

Just an hour from Chengdu International Airport, the new Anantara Emei Resort & Spa is located in the Southwest of China and at the western edge of the Sichuan Basin. It will be the ideal base from which to explore Chengdu's historic places and natural beauty sites such as Mount Emei and SanxingDui which attract visitors from home and abroad.

ANANTARA.COM

QATAR



3

Anantara Doha Island Resort & Spa

Opening early 2014

Located just 11 km from Doha and 20 minutes by boat from Doha International Airport on an exclusive 13 hectare island with its own marina and reefs, the resort offers 141 rooms, suites, pool villas and over water villas. Entertainment options include four swimming pools, an Anantara spa and fitness centre, water sports, a nine hole putting golf course, cinema, children's club and dedicated family beach.

ANANTARA.COM

CHINA



4

Oaks Sanya

Opening early 2014

Oaks Sanya will be the first of the Oaks brand to enter China when it opens in late 2014 and will feature 122 two and three bedroom duplex apartments, each with kitchen facilities. Oaks Sanya will also feature a Chinese restaurant, a bar, a kids club and a gym. The apartments overlook both bays of the Serenity Coast peninsula and are located five minutes' walk from the beach.

OAKSHOTELSRESORTS.COM

THAILAND



5

AVANI Atrium Bangkok

Opening mid 2014

In central Bangkok on New Petchuburi Road, just minutes by subway from Bangkok's business district and shopping centres, AVANI Atrium revels in the dynamic personality of Bangkok. This 568 room hotel is ideally situated for expressway access to and from both Suvarnabhumi and Don Muang airports. Prime shopping and business districts, including Sukhumvit, Silom and Siam Square, are within easy distance from the hotel by subway.

AVANIHOTELS.COM

CHINA



6

Anantara Qiandao Lake Resort & Spa

Opening early 2015

Verdant mountains, crystal clear waters, striking caves and remarkable stones surround Qiandao Lake Town, comprised of a 1,078 jade-like islands and waterscapes. Perched on a hillside the 120 beautifully appointed rooms and villas offer spectacular views of Qiandao Lake below, alluring mountain peaks in the distance and a myriad scenic and natural charms on the doorstep.

ANANTARA.COM

CHINA



7

Anantara Wulong Resort & Spa

Opening late 2015

At the focal point of the unique Yangtze Three Gorges Dam, two hours from Chongqing International Airport, the area attracts visitors from all over the world for its cultural heritage. With 210 rooms and suites the resort is ideally located to explore the stunning scenery. Three of the most prominent attractions are Furong Cave, the Three Natural Bridges, and the Houping Tiankengs.

ANANTARA.COM

CENTRAL RESERVATIONS OFFICE

With the rapid expansion of Anantara Hotels & Resorts we are pleased to announce the opening of a Central Reservations Office in Thailand. With one number you can now book any Anantara hotel or resort. The Central Reservations Office operates from 08:00 to 20:00 (Bangkok Time) seven days a week for reservations in Thai and in English.

Reserve your next indigenous discovery with one of our experienced reservations agents. Call on +66 (0) 2365 9110

