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Asia's Best  
Golf Tour Operator  
2014



Thailand's Best  
Inbound Golf Tour  
Operator 2015

## December 2016 Edition

Dear Golf Travelers,



Welcome to the latest issue of the Asian Golf Nation, the source for news breaking information about golf in Asia. Can you believe it's the last month of 2016? I don't know where this year went to as things have been non-stop since January.

I hope this newsletter finds you in great holiday spirits. Are your plans arranged for the holidays with family, or perhaps is an **Asian golf**

**tour** to celebrate Christmas or New Years in the tropics on the cards? This month we're gearing up for the busiest time of the year in golf and are ready to host golfers like you on the world's most enjoyable golf courses. We hope to see you here soon!












As in the past, this newsletter contains original and news breaking stories on the state of golf in Asia as well as provides useful golf course information, unique golf playing tips for Asia's tropical environment, and special golf travel promotions.

Here are some updates from around the region.

*Mark Siegel*  
Managing Director of Golfasian

### In This Issue:



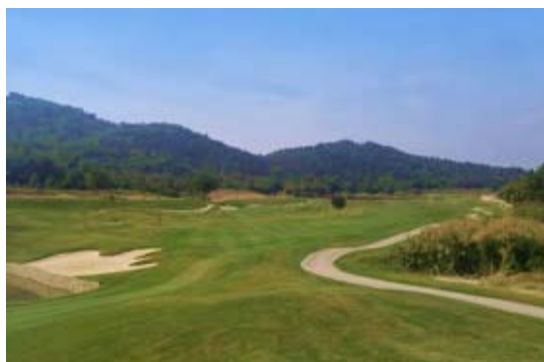
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### GOLF NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

 Hua Hin, Thailand



BLACK MOUNTAIN GOLF CLUB

Thailand's #1 ranked course just got better. The West Course at **Black Mountain Golf Club**, is open for play. This new nine features excellent green complexes every bit as good, if not better, the original 18. Take a look at this photo and you will see what I mean. In fact it is so good that all of our **2017 tournaments** will include a round on the Black Mountain West Course.


 Chiang Mai, Thailand



ALPINE CHIANG MAI GOLF

Speaking of new nines, **Alpine Chiang Mai Golf Resort** also expanded to 27 holes this month. Timing could not be better as the additional capacity is perfect to accommodate the peak season golfers in Northern Thailand over the next 3 months. Together with the already expanded 27-holes at Chiang Mai Highlands, these 2 tracks are hands-down the best golf courses in Chiang Mai.

 Haiphong, Vietnam

 Bogor, Indonesia



VINPEARL HAI PHONG



LIDO GOLF CLUB

Vietnam's north is getting another 5-star golf complex.

Vinpearl Golf Hai Phong is located on Vu Yen Island, 10 minutes from **Hai Phong**, the third largest city in Vietnam and 120 km from Hanoi. The 36-hole IMG designed layout opening in 2017 will be comprised of the Lakeside and Marshland courses.

The Lakeside Course will feature water on 12 of the holes while the Marshland Course plays through open wetlands in a links-style arrangement of holes. Grass grow-in is underway and as soon as Hanoi's winter is over, the Vinpearl facility is sure to attract many golfers.

US President elect Donald Trump is licensing the Trump brand to the Lido Golf Club and entire Lido Lakes Resort area. Currently under renovation by Ernie Els, 36 holes will be developed within a spectacular landscape and with quality and challenges never before seen in **Indonesian golf**. Lido will be Trump's first golf development in Asia as well as Ernie Els' first course design in Indonesia. A new extension to the Bogor toll road will provide direct access to Lido, reducing the drive time from Jakarta to 75 minutes. Lido is located in Bogor City and is 45 minutes from the main **Bogor golf course** area. The Trump course, Trump resort, and new carriageway are scheduled for completion in late 2017.

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## International Golf Tournaments

BOOK EARLY - SAVE MORE

**CENTARA**  
World Masters Golf Championship  
Hua Hin, Thailand

2017 Centara World Masters Golf Championship 11-17 June 2017

**LAST CHANCE!!!**  
Book By 31 December 2016 and receive  
- 1 Hour Thai or foot massage voucher per person  
- 5000 resort credit to spend as you choose at Centara Grand - per room

[Book NOW!](#)



**Mercure**  
HOTELS  
PATTAYA OCEAN RESORT  
& BALL GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

**Pattaya's  
BEST WEEK  
of GOLF and FUN**

**18-24 JUNE 2017**

OPEN TO ALL AMATEUR GOLFERS

[www.pattayagolftournament.com](http://www.pattayagolftournament.com)

**REGISTER NOW!** ➔

*Siam Country Club,  
Plantation Course  
Pattaya, Thailand*

# New 2017 Super Saver Golf Specials

**Irresistible  
Golf Offers**

Click to take advantage of these special golf offers in  
Thailand | Vietnam | Malaysia | Cambodia | Bali



**ASIA GOLF WEEK**



**2017 Events Now Online** [Register Now](#)

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

In March 2017 we have our two biggest events in the golfing calendar, the [Amari Hua Hin Golf Week](#) and [Amari Pattaya Golf Week](#). Each event sees a field of 120 people

from around the world play the best golf courses in each destination. While the tournaments aren't until March 2017, we have 50 players already booked, with most people taking the free room upgrade from the Amari Hotels. Book your position now and don't miss out on a great week of golf!

We have 12 group tours throughout the year and details of these events can be found on the [Asia Golf Week](#) website.

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 Gary. I am an Australian, originally from New South Wales, but now very comfortably domiciled in Perth, Western Australia with a wife of 35 years marriage and two grown up kids!

I have played golf since my father stuck a golf club in my hands when I was about 10 years old. At 61 years old now, I guess you could say I am a long-term golfer. I have been a member of private golf clubs since a junior, and a member of my current golf club, Melville Glades for the last 22 years. My current handicap is 4... hard earned at my age! I also happen to be the President of the club and have been on the Club's Board for the last 5 years. Melville Glades is a parkland golf course in the Perth metropolitan area and will celebrate 50 years of operations in 2017. We have in excess of 1,100 members with member competitions every day of the week. Oh, we also have a mob of around 200 kangaroos that live on the golf course which is a very special experience for our members and visitors.

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

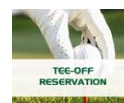
[ [Read more Testimonials](#) ]



## GOLF TRAVEL TESTIMONIALS



Paul Tweedie from Scotland speaks to Golfasian's John Carter about his recent golf holiday experience in Hua Hin. [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

Danang, Vietnam



Danang, Hoi An, and Hue are connected to each other by modern coastal roads and tunnels. Together they make up the Vietnam's Golf Coast. Vietnam's recognition as an up-and-coming golf destination is no secret, but the Vietnam Golf Coast ups the ante even further.

Da Nang or Danang dates back to the early 14th century when the area was settled as a small village in central Vietnam. In 1954 with the division of Vietnam into the North and South, Danang became part of South Vietnam, and in 1965 was the location of the first landing of US forces in Vietnam when it was aptly coined "China Beach". Nowadays, this same area is home to one of Asia's best beaches, many world-class resorts and Vietnam's best golf courses. For example, the [Montgomerie Links Vietnam](#) and the [Danang Golf Club](#) are constantly ranked among Asia's leading golf clubs. It is no surprise then that some refer to this area as the Vietnam Golf Coast. [[Read the complete review](#)]

View our [Danang Golf Packages](#) | [Danang Golf Courses](#)

## FEATURED GOLF COURSE



**BRG Da Nang Golf Resort** (Danang Golf Club) opened in 2010 and immediately leapt to fame being recognized as one of the 15 best new courses in the world by USA GOLF magazine. Da Nang Golf Resort has been awarded a number of awards, amongst them the 2011, 2012, 2013 best golf course in Asia by the readers of Asian Golf Monthly as well as the 2012 Best Golf Course in Vietnam by USA Golf Digest and the 2014 IAGTO Diamond Award.

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

## FEATURED HOTEL



**Pullman Danang Beach Resort** sits on My An Beach. The beachfront property is only 5 minutes from downtown Danang and 15 minutes from the Danang Airport. The hotel features a long pool corridor, day spa- and health club. The rooms are contemporary styled modern with light colors. Two Danang golf courses are within 10 minutes from the Pullman Danang Beach Resort.

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



## GOLF TRIP IDEA

### Vietnam Golf Trail - Golf Lifestyle Experience



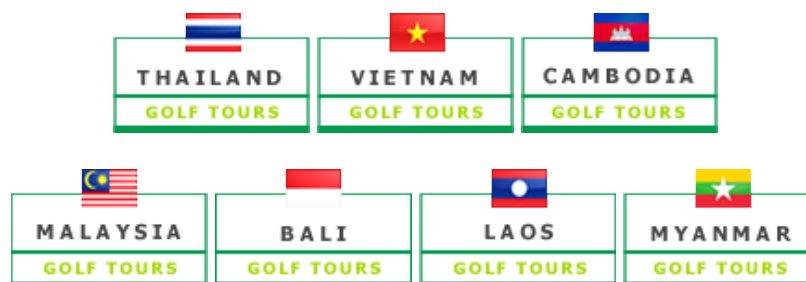
The **Vietnam Golf Trail** is a Golf Lifestyle Experience™ journey and includes Hanoi, Halong Bay, Danang/Hoi An, Dalat, Nha Trang and Saigon. All of Vietnam's top golf courses from north to south are included in this Vietnam golf package.

Golf highlights include **Danang Golf Club**, Montgomerie Links and **Ba Na Hills** on the Vietnam golf coast, Van Tri Golf Club in Hanoi and Saigon's Long Thanh Golf Club. The award winning Dalat Palace Golf Club in the temperate highlands of Dalat and the spectacular **Vinpearl Golf Club** on its own private island are two of the other featured golf stops.

Those golf travelers who want to re-trace the Ho Chi Minh Trail will enjoy the stops at China Beach and Chu Chi. Others who want to learn about Vietnamese civilization will be fascinated by Halong Bay and Hoi An, both UNESCO World Heritage sights.

View the [complete golf holiday itinerary](#).  
To meet your preferences and budget [please contact us for further information](#).

## GOLF TOURS







## GOLF COURSES

		
THAILAND	VIETNAM	CAMBODIA
GOLF COURSES	GOLF COURSES	GOLF COURSES

			
MALAYSIA	BALI	LAOS	MYANMAR
GOLF COURSES	GOLF COURSES	GOLF COURSES	GOLF COURSES



## GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE & CLOSURES

### Thailand

#### Bangkok

**Bangkok Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 16 & 21 December for tournaments.

**Cascata Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 7 & 27 December for tournaments.

**Lakewood Country Club:** Course will be closed on 14, 16 and 19 December for tournaments.

**Lotus Valley Golf Resort:** Course will be closed on 8 & 9 December for tournaments.

**Thai Country Club:** Course will be closed on 16 & 17 December for tournaments.

**The Royal Gems Golf and Sports Club:** Course will be closed on 16 (afternoon) and 21 & 27 December for tournaments.

**Windsor Park & Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 8, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 18 December for tournaments.

#### Hua Hin

**Banyan Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 22 January for a tournament.

**Lake View Resort & Golf Club:** Courses A & B will be closed for on 13, 14, 15 and 16 December for tournaments.

**Royal Hua Hin Golf Course:** Course will be closed on 24 December for a tournament.

**Sea Pines Golf Course:** Course will be closed on 25 December for a tournament.

## Pattaya

**Burapha Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 4-5 December for a tournament.

**Greenwood Golf & Resort:** Course will be closed on 11 December for a tournament.

**Khao Kheow Country Club:** Course will be closed on 16 December for a tournament.

**Laem Chabang International Country Club:** Course will be closed on 23 December for a tournament.

**Pattana Golf Club & Resort:** Course will be closed on 9 & 21 December for tournaments.

**Siam Country Club, Old Course:** Course will be closed from 9 February until 2 March for the Honda LPGA Tournament.

**Siam Country Club, Plantation Course:** Course will be closed on 15 & 21 December for tournaments.

## Phuket

**Blue Canyon Country Club, Canyon Course:** Course will be closed on 10-11 December for a tournament.

**Blue Canyon Country Club, Lakes Course:** Course will be closed on 10-11 December for a tournament.

**Laguna Golf Phuket:** Course will be undergoing green verticut & topdressing sand during 26-28 December.

**Mission Hills Phuket Golf Resort:** Course will be closed on 10, 17 & 19 December for tournaments.

## Chiang Mai

**Chiangmai Inthanon Golf & Natural Resort:** Course will be closed on 6 December for a tournament.

**Gassan Khuntan Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 17, 18 and 24 December for tournaments.

**Gassan Legacy Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 15-16 December for tournaments.

**Mae Jo Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 18 December for a tournament.

## Khao Yai

**Bonanza Golf & Country Club:** Course will be closed on 26 December for a

tournament.

**Rancho Charnvee Country Club:** Course will be closed on 19 December for a tournament.

Koh Samui

**Santiburi Samui Country Club:** Course will be closed on 25 December for a tournament.

 **Vietnam**

Danang

All courses are in great condition.

Hanoi

**BRG King's Island Golf Resort:** The Mountainview course will be closed during 9-10 December for tournaments.

Saigon

All courses are in great condition.

 **Indonesia**

Bali

**Bali National Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 10 December for a tournament.

**New Kuta Golf:** Course will be closed on 10 & 11 December for a tournament.

**Nirwana Bali Golf:** Course will be closed on 10 & 18 December for tournaments.

 **Malaysia**

All courses are in great condition.

 **Cambodia**

Siem Reap

**Angkor Golf Resort:** Course will be closed on 18 December for a private event.

Phnom Penh

All courses are in good condition.

 Singapore

All courses are in good condition.

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### GOLF TOURNAMENTS

Amari Hua Hin Amateur  
Golf Week -  
March 2017



Hua Hin,  
Thailand



12 - 18  
March, 2017

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

Amari Pattaya Amateur  
Golf Week -  
March 2017



Pattaya,  
Thailand



19 - 25  
March, 2017

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

Centara World Masters  
Golf Championship -  
June  
2017



Hua Hin,  
Thailand



11 - 17  
June, 2017

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

Mercure Pattaya Ocean  
Resort 2 Ball Golf  
Championship -  
June 2017



Pattaya,  
Thailand



18 - 24  
June, 2017

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

Accor Vietnam World  
Masters Golf  
Championship -  
August 2017



Danang,  
Vietnam



13 - 19  
August, 2017

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

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### HUA HIN PROPERTIES

#### Luxury Resale Villa Next to Black Mountain Golf Course

3 bedroom pool villa on large plot in high end development loaded with features

This magnificent villa is situated on one of the most beautiful private resorts in Hua Hin, Thailand. Only 2 hours' drive south of Bangkok, 15 minutes' drive from downtown Hua Hin and next to the Black Mountain Golf



Course, rated one of the best in Asia with Black Mountain Water Park and now the new International school only 2 minutes away.

The villa offers a beautiful European interior design with stunning custom-made furniture to suit the style of the house and an 8m high ceiling. Please follow the link to look at the long list of features and stunning photos of this unique property.

[Find out more!](#)

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### BEST OF THE BLOG

#### Which Golf Ball Should I play in Thailand?



Of all the variables that determine a golf ball's performance compression may be the most mysterious. You'll know it as a number on the ball, usually 90 or 100. If you see slow motion videos of balls impacting the club face you'll see it as the ball deforming or "mushing". The ball launches as this compression releases.

Generally, professional advice says the faster you swing the less compression you need but there are way more issues to consider namely spin speed generated, feel, control, etc but let's leave that to Phil Mickelson.

[\[READ THE ENTIRE ARTICLE\]](#)



### GOLFING TIPS

#### Thailand's Caddies



Whilst all of us know that Thailand has a tropical climate which can make playing golf a challenge, you can escape the heat and play in perfect conditions. In the "winter" months of December to March Thailand's mountainous north has a significantly milder climate and temperatures can drop to the low 80s even high 70s. This morning at 7am, under a clear sky, the temperature at Chiang Mai Highlands was a relatively "chilly" 66 degrees when perhaps a light sweater was necessary to make things comfortable. Understandably lots of you are escaping the winter at home, but some may seek it out in Thailand.

[FOR MORE GOLF TIPS VISIT WWW.GOLFTHINK.COM](#)

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 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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## GOLF TRAVEL INSURANCE

Have you thought about golf travel insurance for your trip? Golfasian has teamed up with Pacific Cross insurance to offer:

**Personal Accident Insurance**

up to  
USD 65,000

**Medical Treatment**

up to  
USD 75,000

**Hole-In-One**

up to  
USD 300

**Emergency Evacuation & Repatriation  
Loss/Damage of Baggage**

up to  
USD 800

**Loss/Damage of Golfing  
Equipment**

up to  
USD 2,000

AND A LOT MORE !

[For more information visit our website.](#)

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## MEET GOLFASIAN 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.

**January 25 - 27** PGA Show (Orlando, Florida, USA)

Asia Golf Tourism Convention (AGTC)



May 7 - 10 (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 GOLFSIAN AT ONE OF THESE EXHIBITS.

### Sign Up now for breaking news, cool tips, and great resources about golf in Asia.



You get our Asian Golf Newsletter!! PLUS free access to the latest THAILAND GOLF INSIDER TIPS, a 15 page special report, and you will also be eligible for other great member offers from Golfasian.

Another good reason to be registered on the Golfasian mailing list!

[Sign Up Now !!](#)

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SKAL  
MEMBER NO.:153



GOLF A LEGENDARY SHORE



If any reader would like to suggest a topic to be covered or better yet contribute materials, photos, or even commission an article please contact us by e-mail, we welcome the help.

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