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## Asian Golf Travel Nation - February 2012



Dear Golf Travelers,



Happy New Year friends! What you say a little late? No not really.

January 23rd marked the start of the Chinese Lunar New Year. The coming 12 months will be celebrated as the Year of the Dragon and dragons are regarded by the Chinese as the most powerful of all the animal signs. Dragon years call for golfers to be ambitious, determined, self-confident and unafraid of taking on a challenge, like going for it in 2 on those reachable par-5's. I believe that these characteristics are exactly those that are needed for success in golf. Therefore, I extend to golfers worldwide, the traditional greeting for this season - "Gung Xi Fat

Choy"; may the Dragon bring you good fortune, excellent golf experiences, and many birdies.

This February edition of the Asian Golf Travel Nation 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.

On our side we're experiencing the busiest time ever seen in Asia golf travel and are excited to see all of the happy golfers plying the fairways here. To those who are travelling with us, thank you for your support. To others who are still at home, the winter is not over yet and I hope to welcome you to the sunny skies and Asia's green fairways soon.

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### Golf news from around the region:

#### Thailand

 Bangkok: Thailand's capital once again received top honors among most popular cities with foreign tourists surveyed by the Tourism Authority of Thailand. From our own statistics and golfer feedback the most popular Bangkok golf courses are [Thai CC](#), [Alpine GC](#), and newcomer [Suwan CC](#). Suwan, which not a household named course now, will be soon as Asia's premier golf academy is under construction and will open by May. The new facility will be the first Asian Tour sanctioned academy and host "Top 50" instructors from the USA. Stay tuned!



Chiang Rai: Happy City is happy with the progress. Here is the latest from Graham our man-on-the-ground. Twenty holes are open now (Mountain 9, Lake 9, plus two spare holes). The river nine should open by March. Take a look at this 'Flintstone' kiosk...incredible workmanship don't you think? A Dutch windmill kiosk has a place up high to sit and enjoy the views. Construction of the roads &

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clubhouse will come after the course, but I just might give Happy City a test drive anyway. Looks pretty good already to me!

### Vietnam



**Danang:** While Laguna Lang Golf Club's construction is on track for a 2012 opening, Bana Hills; the other new course on the [golf coast of Vietnam](#) is not. Construction is stopped and I have no idea why. I will ask around next time I am in Danang. Let's hope the stoppage is temporary as this 4th golf course in central Vietnam would make [golf in Danang](#) even better than it is today.

### China



**Hainan:** Thanks for all your feedback on our Mission Hills Hainan promotional trips. I guess playing on the Omega World Cup course at a super low price does indeed have great appeal. If you are still interested, [let me know](#) and I can arrange a trip for you before we officially launch.

With that I wish golf travelers a great start to the Year of the Dragon.

*Mark Siegel*  
Managing Director of Golfasian

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Happy City Golf Resort & Spa, Chiang Rai



Danang Golf Club, Golf Coast Vietnam



Omega World Cup @ Mission Hills Hainan

### Subscription Offer

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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!



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### Siem Reap - A Personal Destination Review by Adam Robertson - GM of Angkor Golf Resort

Fast becoming the new golf destination in Asia, Siem Reap offers something quite breathtaking for the golfing tourist. There are three quality courses on offer and approximately 100 temples that await the traveller.

**Angkor Golf Resort** is Cambodia's best golf course, recently voted in the "Top 10 Best Maintained Course" in Asia Pacific by readers of Asian Golf Monthly.

Designed by Sir Nick Faldo this challenging and highly enjoyable course is built to test the seasoned professional golfer through to the weekend holiday golfer. A challenging yet fair test of golf situated in the most spiritual places on earth. [\[Read more...\]](#)

[\[Browse our Cambodia Golf Holiday Packages\]](#)



Angkor Wat, Siem Reap

### Asian Golf Monthly



Now in its 12th year, Asian Golf Monthly is firmly established as one of the world's most prominent English-language magazines on golf.

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

### Featured Golf Course - Angkor Golf Resort, Siem Reap

The world class Faldo designed Angkor Golf Resort is the best golf course in Cambodia and by a wide margin. The six-time major winner Nick Faldo himself, received a blessing from local monks and then opened the golf course in December 2007, his first golf course in Cambodia. The Angkor Golf Resort

### 2012 Golf Cruise

brings Cambodia squarely onto international golf destination map.

Tess, fairways, and greens are all maintained as what you would expect from a Faldo designed and IMG managed golf course. The latest Paspalum turf insures excellent year-round playing conditions.

[\[Take advantage of our special offer and tee off for USD 90 only - lowest rate guaranteed!\]](#)



Angkor Golf Resort, Siem Reap



### ★ Featured Hotel - Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor

Since the early 1930s, a visit to the ancient temples of Angkor has been synonymous with a stay at Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor.

Located in the heart of Siem Reap, a mere 8 kilometres away from the majestic Angkor Wat, this leading Siem Reap luxury hotel offers convenient access to some of the most intriguing ruins of the temple complex.

The luxury Siem Reap hotel offers personalized pampering at the award-winning Raffles Spa, as well as an array of fine dining choices, from exotic Khmer cuisine at the Restaurant Le Grand to the Elephant Bar where fine wine, champagne and cocktails, including the signature Airavata is served. For a one-of-a-kind dining experience, opt for private dining at one of the magnificent temples of Angkor. [\[Read more about one of Cambodia's Best Hotels & Resorts\]](#)



Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor , Siem Reap

### Golf Properties



### Share Newsletter



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**i** We take the privacy of our clients and partners very seriously and will not sell or redistribute your sensitive information.

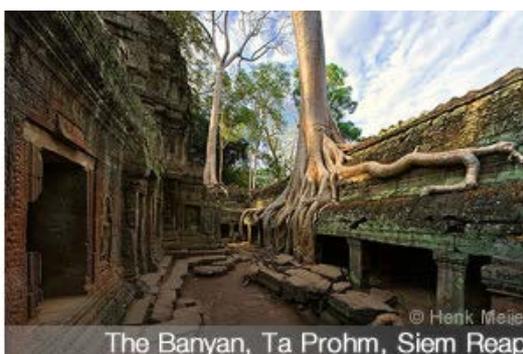
### Golf Trip Idea: Best of Golf in Siem Reap + Bangkok & Saigon Golf Layover

Golf and explore three Asian countries in one journey.

In Siem Reap, Cambodia, play at 2 championship golf courses including the Angkor Golf Resort designed by Nick Faldo. In between rounds you will explore Angkor Wat; one of the world's most famous ancient ruins that must be seen to be believed.

In Bangkok, the golf lover's paradise, play at prestigious PGA venues and enjoy a private cruise along the Chao Phraya River.

After Bangkok fly to Ho Chi Minh City the industrious centre of Vietnam. Visit all of the war sites between golfing at the South's top golf courses. [\[Best of Indochina Golf Package Detailed Itinerary...\]](#)



The Banyan, Ta Prohm, Siem Reap

### Forward

 Think this may interest your friends, relatives, or colleagues? To forward this newsletter to them right now, click [\[FORWARD\]](#).

### Follow Us



### Golf Travel Partners



**Video of the Month - Golf in Thailand, Asia - an Introduction at Thai Country Club by Chayuda Singhsuwan**

Chayuda Singhsuwan, a rising star in the Thai and international golf scene is welcoming all golf travellers to Thailand in this short video clip.

[\[View the video clip now\]](#)

If you have any videos from your recent trip to the Indochina region and would like to share them with us, please [send us an email](#) with the video link.

[\[Visit Golfasian's Youtube Channel\]](#)



**Press Release: Golfasian Leads the Way in Golf Tourism**

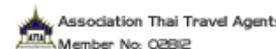
Bangkok, January 23 -- Bringing just 600 golfers to Thailand 6 years ago, Golfasian is now the largest specialist golf tour operator in Asia having handled over 5,300 golf tourists in 2011.

Read the success story of this niche golf tour operator - Golfasian.

[\[Read the entire Press Release\]](#)



We are Member of



**Golf Tournaments**

**Hua Hin Amateur Golf Week - March 2012**  
Date: March 10 - 16, 2012 | Location: Hua Hin, Thailand [\[Find out more\]](#)

**Pattaya Amateur Golf Week - March 2012**  
Date: March 17 - 24, 2012 | Location: Pattaya, Thailand [\[Find out more\]](#)

**Phuket Amateur Golf Week - July 2012**  
Date: July 21 - 27, 2012 | Location: Phuket, Thailand [\[Find out more\]](#)

**Pattaya Amateur Golf Week - October 2012**  
Date: October 20 - 27, 2012 | Location: Pattaya, Thailand [\[Find out more\]](#)

**Chiang Mai Amateur Golf Week - October 2012**  
Date: October 27 - November 02, 2012 | Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand [\[Find out more\]](#)



**Best of the Blog vietnamgolfzone.com**

**Golf in Vietnam**

Golf in Vietnam is an experience to remember for a lifetime. From short breaks at championship Vietnam golf courses to explorations of golf, history and

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culture, Vietnam now has it all. One of the best up-and-coming golfing destinations in the world, the country is dynamic, safe, and affordable.

From the excitement of modern Saigon to the thousand-year-old streets of Hanoi, from the sea and sand in Danang and Hoi An to the mountain fresh air of Dalat, the choices are endless. Combine this with world-class Vietnam golf and accommodations to suit every golf traveler and you have the foundation of for the ultimate Vietnam golf destination.



[Read more about "Golf in Vietnam"](#)

Other golf stories can be found at the [Thailand Golf Zone](#) where there are over 500 other original articles dealing exclusively with golf in Asia and golf travel.

I would love to hear about any golf tips that any of you may have developed for getting the maximum enjoyment from your golf trips, and can incorporate some in future articles. Therefore if you have any golf tips or suggestions you would like to share, please [let me know](#) by dropping me an email.

➔ [Subscribe to our RSS Feed.](#)

### **Golfing Tips by Ian Morgan - Rent Clubs or Bring Your Own?**

Often, we get asked the question if one should bring their own clubs or rent clubs at the golf courses here in Thailand.

Despite the fact that you actually can rent clubs at most golf courses in Thailand for about 1,000 Thai Baht for a standard set and up to 1,500 Thai Baht for a quality make such as Ping or Callaway we recommend that you bring your own clubs.

When you bring your own clubs you can be sure that there will be no disappointments in case that the right clubs are not available or that the rental clubs may be in bad condition.



Also, most national airlines do not charge extra for golf bags upon check-in.

[\[Read more Golf Tips Articles\]](#)

If you have any other questions regarding golf tips to help you with your game email us at [info@golfasian.com](mailto:info@golfasian.com) and we will reply in upcoming newsletters

For more golf tips visit [www.golfthink.com](http://www.golfthink.com)

### **Meet Golfasian at these Trade/Roadshows/Fam-Trips**

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

You can find us at the following events:

- April 22 - 24, 2012 - IAGTO Asia Golf Tourism Convention (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)
- April 26 - May 01, 2012 - Post IAGTO Asia Conference Golf Tour Operator Fam Trip (Phuket & Bangkok, Thailand)
- November 12 - 15, 2012 - International Golf Travel Mart (IGTM) 2012 (Algarve, Portugal)

[Arrange an appointment](#) with Golfasian at one of these exhibits.



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If any reader would like to suggest a topic to be covered or better yet contribute materials, photos, or even commissions an article please [contact us by e-mail](#), I welcome the help.

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