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## Asian Golf Travel Nation - April 2012



Dear Golf Travelers,



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

In addition, 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.

Asia continues to warm up! Not only is the golf across the region becoming more and more well known, but this is the time of year when temperatures climb. Golf travelers are best advised to include a beach destination in their travels to be able to cool off after their rounds.

Otherwise, head to Northern Vietnam and Southern China to take advantage of the cool spring weather.

The good news is that special discounts are on offer across most of Thailand, Vietnam, and Cambodia for the next 3-4 months. [Inquire here](#) to find out more details!

Of course there are many other 'happenings' around the region so with that, I invite you to enjoy this edition of the Asian Golf Nation.

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### Golf news from around the region:













#### Thailand

 **Bangkok:** Courses flooded in late 2011 are re-opening. In particular, the new [Royal Gems Golf City](#) replica course commenced operations last month with conditions now being around 90% of what they were previously. Clubhouse construction continues and permanent facilities are expected to be in place by the end of the summer. [Let me know](#) if you want to play "Bangkok's Augusta" on your next Bangkok trip.

**Chiang Mai:** North Thailand's premium golf destination gets its 10th golf course. [Koolpant Golf Course](#) is located only 10 minutes from Chiang Mai center and opens in July. It starts out as a 9-hole course with residences surrounding the course and will be later be expanded to 18. Grassing is almost complete and from the holes I saw in March it looks to be a nice resort layout with excellent turf and playing




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conditions. Stay tuned for more information.


### Vietnam

 **Nha Trang:** There are now 2 golf courses to choose from in Vietnam's famous beach resort area. **Vinpearl Golf Club** is a stunning IMG designed par-71 course that plays along a pristine white sand beach on Hon Tre Island in Nha Trang Bay. **Diamond Bay Golf & Resort** is an Andy Dye layout on one of the best pieces of golf course real estate I have seen, Jim will be making a Nha Trang golf trip next month to play both courses and get the latest scoop on this new golf destination.



Vinpearl Golf Club, Nha Trang

### Cambodia

 **Phnom Penh:** Grand Phnom Penh is open and guess what? You truly was one of the first 100 golfers in the world to play all 18 holes. Not only that, but Sir Nick Faldo was one of the first golfers there too. Strange; as Grand Phnom Penh is a Jack Nicklaus design and I bet a competing designer has rarely ever (if ever) played a course before the original designer.



Grand Phnom Penh, Cambodia

With that I would like to once again thank those of you who have golfed with us recently, it was nice seeing you and I hope your trip was memorable one. Also, GOLFASIAN have secured special deals with over 200 golf courses and 850 hotels in Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, and Cambodia to offer the very best promotions for the 2012 low season. Please contact us for details and your request at [info@golfasian.com](mailto:info@golfasian.com). Whatever your budget and preferred style of travel, we are glad to suggest a [golf package](#) to meet your needs.

Until the next newsletter, happy golfing and I hope to see YOU in the area very soon!

*Mark Siegel*  
Managing Director of Golfasian

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### Phuket - A Personal Destination Review by Ian Morgan

Phuket is Thailand's biggest island and commonly referred to as the "Pearl of the Andaman".

The island is blessed with magnificent coves and bays, clear waters and some of the world's finest beaches. The best beaches and the most popular are on the west coast in the resorts of Patong, Karon, Kata, Kamala, Surin Nai Harn, Bang Thao and Mai Khao.

As well as its famous beaches Phuket offers many more attraction such scuba diving around its neighboring islands, the most popular being Phi Phi Island, Raya Islands and the Similan Islands. [[Read more...](#)]




A Quiet Beach on Phuket Island

[[Browse our Phuket Golf Holiday Packages](#)]



### Subscription Offer

 [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!



### 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.

### Golf Properties

## ★ Featured Golf Course - Blue Canyon Country Club

The Blue Canyon Lakes golf course is the 2nd golf course at Blue Canyon Country Club. The hole routing makes good use of meandering creeks and water-filled canyons created by abandoned open cast tin mining with natural land flow left relatively unchanged from the original jungle contours.

The front 9 of the Blue Canyon Lakes Course runs through a landscape of lakes and natural canyons, whilst the back 9 weaves its way around lakes and woodlands of rubber trees. Silver tees between the red and white tees allow this course to cater to a wide range of golfers from professionals to amateurs alike. [\[Read more about one of Phuket's Best Golf Courses\]](#)



### Share Newsletter



## ★ Featured Hotel - The Nap Patong

Without doubt our most popular hotel for golfers this season in Phuket.

The ultimate Hip hotel is just a short stroll away from bustling capital of Phukets nightlife and only a couple of minutes walk to the beach but a good night's sleep is guaranteed in this quiet little haven in the resort of Patong.

The hotel offers 86 rooms and 5 villas and all the modern amenities such as high speed internet, LCD TV and electronic safety box. [\[Read more about one of Phuket's Best Hotels & Resorts\]](#)



### Privacy

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

### Follow Us



## Golf Trip Idea: Ultimate Phuket Resort Golf Package

The Outrigger Laguna Phukett Resort and Villas offer spacious accommodations at resort room prices. The Three and Four bedroom villas all enjoy their own private pool and the Two bedroom villas have the use of a shared free form swimming pool.

Amongst the amenities of the resort include are the Laguna Golf Club, host of the Thailand Open in 2009, and collection of spa sanctuaries managed by the renowned Banyan Tree Group. Situated within the Laguna Resort, you can take advantage of the many restaurants of which there are 25 spread amongst the other hotels within the resort. [\[Ultimate Phuket Resort Golf Package Detailed Itinerary...\]](#)



### Golf Travel Partners





**Meet our Staff: Ian Morgan - Phuket General Manager**

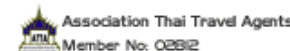
Ian left school at 16 and spent the next 8 years playing Professional Golf gaining full PGA qualification at the age of 24 before a wrist injury forced him to quit the paid ranks.

He then spent the next 20 years as a Travel Agent in England before becoming the official golf tour operator for the low cost airline JET2. During this time he bought a holiday home in Phuket and spent many winter holidays on his favourite island. [\[Read more about Ian\]](#)



Ian (pink) with a group of golfers at Thai CC

We are Member of



**Press Release: Golf Tourism Exploding in Asia**

Bangkok, March 29, 2012 -- Growth sectors in tourism - domestic and international - are hard to find these days. Business and financial uncertainty, the ongoing fallout from Europe and America's economic woes and faltering economic growth in key markets have impacted severely on many tourism sectors and destinations around the world.

With one clear exception: golf tourism to Asia.

Led by Thailand, the world's third most popular golf tourism destination behind Spain and the United States, golf tourism to the kingdom and some neighbouring countries is defying accepted norms. [\[Read the entire Press Release\]](#)



Sutera Harbour, Malaysia



**Golf Tournaments**

**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  
[\[Find out more\]](#)

**Golf Tours**

- Thailand Golf Tours
- Vietnam Golf Tours
- Cambodia Golf Tours
- Malaysia Golf Tours
- Bali Golf Tours



### Hua Hin Amateur Golf Week - March 2013

Date: March 03 - 09, 2013 | Location: Hua Hin, Thailand

### Pattaya Amateur Golf Week - March 2013

Date: March 10 - 16, 2013 | Location: Pattaya, Thailand

## Best of the Blog [thailandgolfzone.com](http://thailandgolfzone.com)

### Thailand Golf Club Memberships

If you are coming to Thailand often and play golf regularly, it's always a great debate on if you should buy a golf membership.

In Thailand, you can buy a membership at a good golf club for between 100,000-300,000 baht (\$3000-10,000 US), quite a bargain considering most of the golf clubs don't charge monthly or annual dues, and even better when comparing costs to clubs in the US or Europe.

[Read on for a brief list of some of my favorites.](#)

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](#).



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## Golfing Tips by Ian Morgan - Drink Ginger Ale!

My golf tip this month comes from the greatest golfer of our time, Jack Nicklaus.

When I first came to Thailand on holiday to play golf I found that my hands used to swell which made it difficult to get the right feel on the club. I never found out whether this was due to the difference in temperature or the long flight. I then read an article from the great man, who told of the same thing happening to him and the cure was to drink ginger ale and it reduced the swelling.

I have never had a problem since!

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

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 30 - September 06, 2012 - Vietnam Golf Fam Trip (Ho Chi Minh City & Danang/ Hoi An, Vietnam)
- November 12 - 15, 2012 - International Golf Travel Mart (IGTM) 2012 (Algarve, Portugal)



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



## About Us & Contacts



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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## *Golf Holidays in Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam*