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Asia's Best
 Golf Tour Operator
 2014



Thailand's Best
 Inbound Golf Tour
 Operator 2015

April 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. In addition, unique golf playing tips for South East Asia's tropical environment, announcements of golf travel promotions, and our latest tournament offers are all parts of this newsletter.

Are you ready for spring golfing? The Asian golf courses are more than ready to welcome you! April is not one of the best times to visit because the weather is very hot and dry. In fact, in **Thailand**, the south of Vietnam and throughout Cambodia April is the hottest month of the year.

On the other hand, most of our European friends have gone home, golf courses are practically deserted, hotel rooms are plentiful, and prices are lower across the board. It's best for golfers to enjoy the sunny days and top courses at any of our popular beach destinations like **Danang**, Hua Hin, or Bali.

For even more fun, you can plan to be in Thailand, Laos, or **Cambodia** for the grand water celebration in mid-April. It an amazing experience of typical culture so why not enjoy all the rituals and festivities. What a way to kick-off your golf season.

A winner of the 2014 & 2015 World Golf Awards with the title of **Asia's Best Golf Tour Operator 2014** and **Thailand's Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator 2015**, 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

As always there are lots of golf developments around the region, so sit back and enjoy this edition of the Asian Golf Nation.

*Mark Siegel
Managing Director of Golfasian*

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GOLF NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION



Phnom Penh, Cambodia



GARDEN CITY GC, Phnom Penh



Singapore



SENTOSA GC, Tanjong Course

I visited Phnom Penh for the first time in a few years last month and played both **Garden City** and **Grand Phnom Penh**. Both courses were in above average condition and the whole Phnom Penh golf experience was something to remember. In some ways Phnom Penh reminds me of how Bangkok was 20 years ago. The people are very sincere, costs are low, and there are loads of restaurants, pubs, massage and other things to do around town.

Renovations on the **Sentosa Golf Club Tanjong Course** are going well and ahead of schedule. New earthworks and irrigation are being carried out and the New Tanjong Course should be ready for play by November.

In the meantime, the famous Serapong Course is open, available, and in great shape.



Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam



HARMONIE GOLF PARK, Saigon

Saigon is getting in on the Vietnam golf course building boom with Harmonie Golf Park being resurrected near to **Twin Doves Golf Club**. Designed a few years back by Jim Engh, Harmonie is an 18-hole layout scheduled for completion in early 2017. Nine holes are completed and ready for grassing and earthworks for the second nine are in progress. Given the design and construction pedigree, Harmonie Golf Park will be a nice addition to the Ho Chi Minh City golf scene.



Danang, Vietnam



BA NA HILLS GC, Danang

With this month's official opening of all 18 holes at **Ba Na Hills Golf Club**, Danang now has 4 excellent tracks for everyday play. Moreover, the recently announced Bangkok Airways non-stop flight from Bangkok will commence operations on May 26. Once flying, the 4 times a week flight opens up many new possibilities for 2-centred golf holidays that link the best courses in Thailand to those in central Vietnam.

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International Golf Tournaments

PLAY MORE - SAVE MORE

We now offer 3 International Acclaimed Tournaments -
Centara World Masters Golf Championship 12-18 June 2016

Mercuré Pattaya Ocean Resort 2 Ball Golf Championship 19-25 June 2016
Accor Vietnam World Masters Golf Championship (*) NOW 25% OFF! (***)** 4-10 Sept. 2016



WORLD MASTERS GOLFER'S COMMENT

Wow a superlative that just doesn't seem to cover it all. Once again you and your team have raised the bar another notch. The week prior to playing Centara World Masters was faultless, on time transportation, welcoming GolfAsian staff, nothing was a hassle.

I would personally like to say thanks to your staff and yourself for making the lead up to the tournament such a stress free time. As for the Centara Masters, the organisation and mechanics of running it were quite outstanding.

My hand is already raised for next years event and I'm sure judging by the last 2 events my friends and I will not be disappointed.

Once again, a huge thanks, will be in contact soon to organise next years pre tour.

Rolf Mulder

BOOK NOW FOR BIG SAVINGS!

Register for 2 events - save 10% off your second event.
Register for 3 events - save 10% off all 3 events.

EARLY BIRD SPECIALS EXTENDED - Be Rewarded for booking early.
Book before April 30th and receive big discounts off the total package price for the Accor Vietnam World Masters Golf Championship.

BOOK NOW!

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Irresistible Golf Offers

SPECIAL PRICE!

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



ASIA GOLF WEEK



GOLF TRAVEL TESTIMONIALS



Joe and his friends at Alpine Golf Resort Chiang Mai

Hi, my name is Joe. I started playing golf in 1992 as a club member at Amstel Golf Club, but am now playing off a 10 handicap at Drouin Golf and Country Club at Drouin Victoria in Australia. The Drouin course is predominately couch fairways set amongst a picnic day racecourse, quite picturesque. My lowest playing handicap has been 7.

Before this trip, I had travelled to Thailand twice before, backpacking, and not staying in any one place for any length of time.

A local Drouin member had taken a group of friends to Thailand last year and had organised another trip in May 2015, so I decided to join this group along with a few others who hadn't been to Thailand golfing either. I didn't know these members, but by the time we left Hua Hin the 12 of us had become good mates. All agreed to return next year.

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

[\[Read more Testimonials \]](#)



GOLF LESSONS IN THAILAND



DESTINATION REVIEW

Vientiane, Laos



Vientiane is a new golf destination that we have recently explored. As the capital of Laos, Vientiane or *Viang chan*, is the largest city with an estimated population of 760,000 (2015). The city contains many historic buildings and temples such as Patuxai Gate, a monument dedicated to those who fought for independence from France, Pha That Luang, one of the most famous Buddhist stupas in Laos, and the Cope War Museum and Disability Help Center which is a legacy from the extensive bombing of the country during the war.

Personally I think Vientiane is for visitors who are searching for parts of South East Asia that are off the beaten track. Four to five nights, two rounds of golf and one day's sightseeing should give you a good perspective of the destination. Well established golf

course, Long Vien Golf Club is conveniently located 10 minutes from the Lao-Thai Friendship Bridge which is in the Nong Khai Province of Thailand. This is a sister course of Long Thanh Golf Club in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The 27 hole-course has a modern clubhouse with posh locker rooms, international restaurant, and well-stocked pro shop. Long Vien Golf Club is also open for night golf. Another really good quality course is Lakeview Golf Club. This brand new Chinese-owned golf course has a great deal to offer and I rank it the best in Laos, offering as it does full practice facilities. The clubhouse should be finished shortly. These two golf courses are must-play if you are in Vientiane.

You can enter Laos by land via the Thai border, or fly into the Wattay International Airport which has international connections to many other Asian Countries. Vientiane is worth exploring for its heritage, great French cuisine at fabulous prices and surprising golf. Even though there is not much English spoken, it will be a great experience and genuine adventure. Remember this, *Sabaidee* is Hello and *Kop Jai* is Thank You in Laotian. People are very friendly so these two words should serve you well.

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

FEATURED GOLF COURSE



Long Vien Golf Club, Vientiane, Laos

Long Vien Golf Course is the first 27-hole course in Laos. The original 18 opened in 2012 and the second 18 in 2016. The Laos golf course is located in a special duty free zone 16 kilometers outside Vientiane and 1 kilometer from the Mekong River which separates Thailand and Laos.

The Vientiane Golf Course is laid out on basically flat topography. Manmade mounding, water features and intricate sharp-lipped bunker complexes provide the main challenges. Wide fairways are framed by mature trees, flowering plants and red-grass water areas.

[\[Read more about one of Laos' Best Golf Courses\]](#)

FEATURED HOTEL



Salana Boutique Hotel, Vientiane

A stylish experience awaits in Central Vientiane at **Salana Boutique Hotel**. Featuring modern rooms with flat-screen TVs and free WiFi, the hotel offers a spa and restaurant. The hotel is 500 m from Laos National Museum. Guests enjoy welcome fruit in the rooms upon arrival.

Salana's elegant rooms are fitted with classic dark wood furnishings and flooring. Cable TV channels are provided. Tea and coffee-making facilities and a minibar are included.

[\[Read more about one of Laos' Best Hotels\]](#)

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GOLF TRIP IDEA

2 County/13 Day World Heritage Golf Excursion - Laos & Thailand



Long Vien Golf Club, Vientiane, Laos

One of our most popular tour packages is the **Laos Golf Holidays 2 Country 13 Day Excursion**. Avid golfers love this trip because it satisfies even the most demanding golf appetites. All of the courses are interesting and challenging in a variety of settings ranging from level suburban and gently undulating countryside, to impressive mountain views. The package includes eleven hotel night accommodations, up to ten rounds of golf, and all transfers along the way. If you enjoy feeling like you are going somewhere, this is the trip for you, especially if you have an insatiable appetite for golf.

View the **complete tour itinerary**.

To meet your preferences and budget **please contact us for further information**.

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GOLF TOURS

 THAILAND GOLF TOURS	 VIETNAM GOLF TOURS	 CAMBODIA GOLF TOURS	
 MALAYSIA GOLF TOURS	 BALI GOLF TOURS	 LAOS GOLF TOURS	 MYANMAR GOLF TOURS



PRESS RELEASE

25% Discount On Vietnam World Masters Golf Tournament

Danang, Vietnam, 7 March 2016 — A big increase in support from AccorHotels has prompted organisers to offer a 25% discount on tournament packages for the second annual **AccorHotels Vietnam World Masters** from 4 to 10 September 2016.

Last year's tournament was a great success with players from America, Canada, India, Singapore, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Australia and New Zealand in attendance. Such was the success of the tournament, major sponsor AccorHotels is getting behind the event in a major way.



GOLF COURSES



GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE UPDATES

Thailand

Bangkok

Amata Spring Country Club: Course will be closed on 5 for a tournament. The course will be undergoing coring greens during 11-13 April.

Cascata Golf Club: Course will be closed on 11, 13, 16, 18, 23 and 27 May for tournaments.

Lakewood Country Club: Course will be closed on 8 April for a tournament.

Lam Luk Ka Country Club: Course will be undergoing verticut and coring green on course A (18-22 April), course B (25-29 April), course C (10-13 May) and course D (16-19 May).

Lotus Valley Golf Resort: Course will be closed on 11, 18, 23, 25 and 30 April for tournaments.

Nikanti Golf Club: Course will be closed on 13, 17, 23, 27 and 30 May for tournaments.

Panya Indra Golf Club: Course will be closed from 11-15 April for Songkran Festival.

Riverdale Golf Club: Course will be closed from 2-7 May for a tournament.

Royal Golf & Country Club: Course will be undergoing coring greens on some holes.

The Royal Gems Golf and Sports Club: Course will be undergoing major greens

renovations. Holes 9-17 will be closed April - June and holes 1-8 and 18 will be closed July - September. All 18 greens will be ready for play again in October.

The Royal Gems Golf City (Dream Arena): Course has been undergoing coring aeration on all areas on 29 March.

Vintage Golf Club: Course will be undergoing golf course maintenance during April.

Windsor Park & Golf Club: Course will be closed on 5, 20, 22, 27, and 29 April for tournaments.

Hua Hin

Banyan Golf Club: Course will be closed from 15 - 20 June for a tournament.

Imperial Lake View Resort & Golf Club: Courses C & D are closed indefinitely.

Royal Hua Hin Golf Course: Course will be closed from 25 April - 1 May and 28 May and 26 June for tournaments.

Springfield Royal Country Club: Courses C is closed until 30 April, Course B is closed during 1 - 31 May and Course C is closed during 1 - 30 June.

Pattaya

Greenwood Golf & Resort: Course will be undergoing maintenance on course C (18-22 April) and course A (25-29 April). Course will be closed from 21 - 22 May for a tournament.

Khao Kheow Country Club: Course B will be closed for maintenance until 29 April.

Laem Chabang International Country Club: Course will be closed for maintenance on course A (1-11 April) and course C (18 April - 1 May). Course will be closed on 29 April, 13 May and 10 & 23 June for tournaments.

Pattana Golf Club & Resort: Course will be closed on 24 April and from 23 - 28 May and on 5 and 19 June for tournaments.

Pattaya Country Club: Course will be closed on 23 and 29 April for tournaments.

Rayong Green Valley Country Club: Course will be closed on 5, 8, 18-19 and 24 April and from 30 April - 1 May and on 5, 14 and 24 June for tournaments.

Siam Country Club, Old Course: Course will be closed every Monday (except during public holidays) for weekly maintenance until 26 September. Course will be undergoing coring greens during 18 - 22 April.

Siam Country Club, Waterside Course: Course will be closed from 4-8 April for the True Visions International Junior Golf Championship. Starting April 12, the course will be closed every Tuesday (except during public holidays) for weekly maintenance until 27 September.

St. Andrews 2000 Golf Club: Course will be closed from 18-19 April for annual holiday and on 24 & 28 April and 30 April - 1 May and on 5 May for tournaments.

Phuket

Blue Canyon Country Club, Canyon Course: Course will be closed on 11 and 25 April for maintenance. Course will be undergoing coring maintenance during 2 - 5 May.

Blue Canyon Country Club, Lakes Course: Course will be closed on 18 April for maintenance. Course will be undergoing coring maintenance during 13 - 16 June.

Laguna Golf Phuket: Course will be undergoing coring greens during 18 - 22 April, top sand on green during 2 - 6 May, verticut on greens during 16 - 31 May and further maintenance during June.

Loch Palm Golf Club: Course will closed on 18 May for a tournament. Course will be undergoing coring greens on 4 July.

Phuket Country Club: Course will be closed on 14 May for a tournament and undergoing maintenance during 7 - 8 June.

Red Mountain Golf Club: Course will be closed on 28 April for a tournament and undergoing coring greens on 6 June.

Koh Samui

Santiburi Samui Country Club: Course will be undergoing coring greens during 28 March - 12 April. Course will be closed from 13-19 June for a tournament.

Chiang Mai

Alpine Golf Resort Chiang Mai: Course will be closed for maintenance from 4-5 April.

Chiangmai Highlands Golf & Spa Resort: Course will be closed on 27 April for a tournament.

Gassan Legacy Golf Club: Course will be undergoing coring greens during 2 - 3 May.

Gassan Marina Golf & Resort: Course will be closed for renovation from May 2015 until May 2016.

Mae Jo Golf Club: Course will be closed on 27 April for a tournament.

Royal Chiang Mai Golf Club & Resort: Course will be closed on 7 May for a tournament.

Chiang Rai

Santiburi Chiang Rai Country Club: Course will be closed 24 April and 15 & 29 May and 19 June for a tournament and undergoing coring greens on 25 April.

Khao Yai

Bonanza Golf & Country Club: Course will be closed on 1 May for a tournament.

Vietnam

Danang

Laguna Lang Co Golf Club: Course will be closed from 30 April - 1 May for the Vientam Senior Championship 2016.

Hanoi

Sky Lake Resort & Golf Club: Course will be undergoing coring greens & verticut during 11-18 April.

Saigon

Jeongsan Country Club: Course will be closed for maintenance on 18 April and 16 May.

Tan Son Nhat Golf Course: Course will be holding the Tan Son Nhat Golf Championship.

Vietnam Golf & Country Club: Course will be holding the Ho Chi Minh Open 2016 during 15-16 April. Course will be undergoing coring greens on 25 July & 15 August.

Malaysia

Kuala Lumpur

Palm Garden Golf Club: Course will be closed on 21 and 28 April and 5, 7, 12 and 15 May for tournaments.

Templer Park Country Club: Course will be undergoing maintenance on 11 April.

Kota Kinabalu

Sutera Harbour Golf & Country Club: Course is holding the 17th BIIBBF Corporate Tournament.

Langkawi

99 East Golf Club: Course is closed for renovation until September 2016.

Gunung Raya Golf Resort: Course will be closed on 23 April for the Prudential Astro Masters.

Cambodia

Siem Reap

Angkor Golf Resort: Course will be closed from 8-10 April for a tournament.

Singapore

Sentosa Golf Club, Tanjong Course: Course is closed for renovation until November 2016.

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GOLF TOURNAMENTS

<p>Centara World Masters Golf Championship - June 2016</p>	<p>Mercure Pattaya Ocean 2 Ball Golf Championship - June 2016</p>	<p>Cambodia Amateur Golf Week - August 2016</p>			
<p> Hua Hin, Thailand</p>	<p> 12 - 18 June, 2016</p>	<p> Pattaya, Thailand</p>	<p> 19 - 25 June, 2016</p>	<p> Siem Reap, Cambodia</p>	<p> 1 - 9 August, 2016</p>
<p>[FIND OUT MORE]</p>		<p>[FIND OUT MORE]</p>		<p>[FIND OUT MORE]</p>	
<p>Accor Vietnam World Masters Golf Championship - September 2016</p>	<p>Siam Country Club Pattaya Amateur Golf Week - October 2016</p>	<p>Chiang Mai Amateur Golf Week - October 2016</p>			



Danang,
Thailand

[FIND OUT MORE]



4 - 10
Sept., 2016



Pattaya,
Thailand

[FIND OUT MORE]



16 - 22
October, 2016



Chiang Mai,
Thailand

[FIND OUT MORE]



23 - 29
October, 2016

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HUA HIN PROPERTIES

Pool Villa in Hua Hin, Thailand



Pool Villa in Hua Hin, Thailand

Highly desirable swimming pool villa built by a multi-award winning developer in Hua Hin, Thailand. This spacious property offers all the required features to enjoy tropical living in Hua Hin. Ideal for permanent residence, vacations or as a rental property. The excellent build quality, premium specification and developer's reputation enhances capital appreciation and rental returns. Located centrally for all the amenities and attractions of the area

including golf, beaches, water parks etc. [Find out more!](#)

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BEST OF THE BLOG

Pattaya's Ultimate Golf Event



It seems like we are looking forward to a very busy month in June. The next tournament, the [Mercure Pattaya Ocean Resort 2-Ball Golf Championship](#) will be held between June 19-25.

Unlike the [Centara World Masters](#)



GOLFING TIPS

Slippery Grips



Pick the Right Golf Club Grips

We are all advised by pros and manufacturers (they would do?) to change our grips every year but I'd be really surprised if most of us got close to that frequency. Nevertheless, if travelling to Thailand for golf, one item on your pre-trip checklist should be the condition of your

Championship, the Pattaya event will be played in 2-ball format for each of 4 rounds, adding a new dimension to the concept. The championship will be held on 3 golf courses of the Siam Country Club and at the Laem Chabang International Country Club.

grips and whether they are fit for purpose.

The heat and humidity might be a challenge and slippery grips could spell disaster leading to improper grip pressure when it matters most. If there's any doubt, there's no doubt... get them changed.

Shall we use all of our annual holiday days to be able to participate in these two Thai amateur golf tournaments?

 FOR MORE GOLF TIPS VISIT WWW.GOLFTHINK.COM

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

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 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](#).

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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:

<p>Personal Accident Insurance up to USD 65,000</p>	<p>Medical Treatment up to USD 75,000</p>	<p>Hole-In-One up to USD 300</p>
<p>Emergency Evacuation & Repatriation Loss/Damage of Baggage up to USD 800</p>		<p>Loss/Damage of Golfing Equipment up to USD 2,000</p>

AND A LOT MORE !

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

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MEET GOLFIASIAN 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 events

April
24 - 27

Asia Golf Tourism Convention (AGTC) (Chiang Mai)

June
26 - 29

IAGTO North America Golf Tourism Convention (USA)

ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT WITH GOLFIASIAN AT ON OF THESE EXHIBITS.

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Golfasian

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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