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Vietnam's  
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## August 2017 Edition

Dear Golf Travelers,



Welcome to the August 2017 issue of the Asian Golf Nation, the source for news breaking information about golf in Asia. Also, 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.

I am writing this month's newsletter more than 200km from the nearest golf course. Here in Masai Mara Kenya, the closest thing to a fairway is a remote landing strip. Forget about greens; everything is brown, plus there are beasts all over instead of grounds keepers. Check out this image, and you will see what I mean. The good news is that the long awaited trip is a good opportunity to spend some quality family time, relax, and write and reflect on what I miss most about golf in Asia.

Asia is still the midst of the low summer season, and with that, there are great promotions around the region. The [Hua Hin Golf Festival](#) is in full swing as are [sports days in Pattaya and Bangkok](#). I have always said there's no better time to get away for some summer golf in Asia than right now during the months of August and September.

This month marks the final leg of 2017 Asia World Masters tournaments with the [Accor Vietnam](#) event being in Danang, August 13-18. The event is a sold out full field 128 person affair. August also is the first ever [Golf Marathon Challenge in Hua Hin](#). Playing 54 holes of championship golf over two days is even more demanding than the pros can tackle and only die hard golfers should enter this

historic event.

Next up on our event calendar are the two November events, the **Ryder Cup in Pattaya** and the **Amateur Week in Chiang Mai**. The former is a match-play limited field event for golfers who prefer this format and want to represent their continent. The latter event is an all-inclusive and unlimited golf affair. Held at the full-service **Alpine Chiang Mai Golf Resort**, the Chiang Mai Amateur Week promises to be exciting, fun and ideal for hardcore golfers.

Finally, while it is still summer, and it may seem early to plan your winter vacations, there are some great all year destinations which Golfasian recommends. Those who know me are familiar with my preference for **Danang on Vietnam's coast**. The four signature courses there together make up the best golf destination in Asia, and by a wide margin (see below). After Danang, my top winter golf stops in Asia are **Chiang Mai**, **Siem Reap**, and **Kuala Lumpur**. All offer great golf, value-for-money, and ideal golfing conditions. We are more than happy to help plan the perfect golf holiday to suit any budget and style of travel. Sample packages can be found on our **web site** or **send an inquiry**, and one of our consultants will design your perfect golf trip.

As always, there are lots of golf 'happenings' around the region so with that, I invite you to enjoy this edition of the Asian Golf Nation.

*Mark Siegel*  
*Managing Director of Golfasian*

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### GOLF NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION



**Nha Trang, Vietnam**



**Chiang Mai, Thailand**



CAM RANH BAY

Grass grow-in at the new Greg Norman designed course at Cam Ranh Bay continues and a 2017 opening is still in the cards. From the recent photo, it is clear that Cam Ranh Bay Golf Links will rank right up with the other top Norman courses in Vietnam already operating in Danang (**BRG Golf Resort**) and Ho Tram (**The Bluffs**). All three are links style and play alongside of the East Sea. This third **Nha Trang golf course** will greatly boost the Ocean City's appeal as a year round golf destination.



ALPINE GOLF RESORT CHIANG MAI

The new 9-holes at **Alpine Chiang Mai** are in full operation, and I had the opportunity to play them last month. Overall the new holes are excellent and play more like a links course and through rice paddies. The opening holes of the original back-9 are integrated with four of the new holes and now form the "B Course.". The other five new holes are now part of the "C Course" along with the original four closing holes. As mentioned, the November Chiang Mai Golf Week is being held at Alpine and players will have the opportunity to play unlimited golf during the week.



## Yangon, Myanmar



DAGON GOLF CITY

The Dagon Golf City opening will be delayed until mid-2018 due to slower than expected progress. The par-72 international golf course of 6,786 yards designed by Phil Ryan, under construction and part of a larger project that includes a hotel, residential, and commercial sections.



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SPECIAL PRICE!



**ASIA GOLF WEEK**



**AsiaGOLF WEEK**

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

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

Our 2018 tournament calendar kicks off with the [Amari Hua Hin Golf Week](#) starting on March 11. The weather is perfect for golfing and the golf courses are in tip top condition. Based on the success of last year, we have opened bookings early so you can get in now and secure your place. In 2018 we will be going back to the popular courses Seapines, Springfield, Banyan and Black Mountain.

For early bird payments before 31 August you can either have a free room upgrade AND a free room night OR have a THB 5,000 voucher to spend at the Amari Hua Hin on food drinks, massages, etc. [Register here](#).

The [Avani Pattaya Amateur Golf Week](#) will be hosted by the Avani Pattaya Resort & Spa, the newest 5 star hotel in Pattaya and starts on 18 March. The Avani is located between Beach & Second road and is right in the middle of town with everything nearby. With so many golf courses in Pattaya available, we have selected the 4 top golf courses, Laem Chabang, Siam Waterside, Siam Plantation and Siam Old Course.

Early Bird bookings paid before 31 August receive a 10% discount and a personalized boston bag with your name on it. [Register here](#).

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

*A stress free holiday and golf experience. We liked all the courses we played at although some were more favourable than others particularly with the ladies in our group as at some courses the holes were very long for lady players. Marriott, Hua Hin. The hotel was fantastic, the pool was excellent and bigger than we expected. The rooms were very clean and spacious enough for our requirements. We appreciated the way GolfAsian provided a seamless trip from the time of the booking to our return to home. Our trip was very well organised, your drivers are very professional, always on time and very polite and helpful.*

*Christine Khan  
UAE, July*

[\[Read more golfer testimonials online\]](#)



## GOLF LESSONS IN THAILAND



## DESTINATION REVIEW

Danang & Hoi An, Vietnam



Da Nang or Danang dates 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.

Hoi An, with its lovely wooden shop-homes was set up in the 16th century. It has been revived in the 20th century to commemorate the long history of Vietnamese international trade. Wandering through its protected old town, visitors are transported back to a time when Hoi An was Vietnam's most important trading port. For those looking a glimpse of the real Vietnam, or just a fun night out, Hoi An mixes old world charm with a modern and vibrant night life.

[\[Read the complete review\]](#)



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.

## FEATURED HOTEL



**Novotel Danang** is exclusively situated in Danang town centre on the Western Bank of the Han River. The hotel is one of the leading hotels in Danang, with the tallest rooftop bar providing spectacular views of the beautiful city of Danang. All the guest room are contemporary, large and comfortable to provide all guests a pleasant and relax stay.

[View our Novotel Danang Golf Special.](#)

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

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

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## GOLF TRIP IDEA

**Novotel Danang Premier Han River Super Golf Holiday Special - 7D/6N**  
+ Get 15% discount on spa treatments at the hotel.

**Only USD 970 per golfer** (or USD 499 for 3 nights)  
4 Rounds of Golf + caddie + cart  
6 Nights` Accommodation at Novotel Danang  
All ground transfers  
24/7 Golf Hotline

**Book Now** →

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## GOLF TOURS

 <b>THAILAND</b> GOLF TOURS	 <b>VIETNAM</b> GOLF TOURS	 <b>CAMBODIA</b> GOLF TOURS	
 <b>MALAYSIA</b> GOLF TOURS	 <b>BALI</b> GOLF TOURS	 <b>LAOS</b> GOLF TOURS	 <b>MYANMAR</b> GOLF TOURS



## GOLF COURSES

 <b>THAILAND</b> GOLF COURSES	 <b>VIETNAM</b> GOLF COURSES	 <b>CAMBODIA</b> GOLF COURSES	
 <b>MALAYSIA</b> GOLF COURSES	 <b>BALI</b> GOLF COURSES	 <b>LAOS</b> GOLF COURSES	 <b>MYANMAR</b> GOLF COURSES



## GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE & CLOSURES

### Thailand

#### Bangkok

**Alpine Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 17 and 27 August for tournaments.

**Bangkok Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 18 & 22 August and on 4, 7, 15 22 and 24 September for tournaments.

**Cascata Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 25 August for a tournament.

**Lakewood Country Club:** Course will be closed on 25 August for a tournament.

**Lam Luk Ka Country Club:** Course will be closed on 10 September for a tournament.

**Lotus Valley Golf Resort:** Course will be closed on 21 August for a tournament.

**Muang Kaew Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 11 and 24 August for tournaments.

**Riverdale Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 9 August and on 10 & 19 September for tournaments.

**Royal Golf & Country Club:** Course will be closed on 9 August and on 1, 6 & 21 September for tournaments.

**Suwan Golf & Country Club:** Course will be closed on 4 & 23 August and on 4, 12 & 29 September for tournaments.

**Vintage Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 24, 26 & 28 August for tournaments.

#### Hua Hin

**Banyan Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 24 September for a tournament.

**Black Mountain Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 19 and 27 August for tournaments.

**Lake View Resort & Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 6 August for a tournament.

**Majestic Creek Country Club:** Course A will be closed for maintenance until 15 August. Course will be closed for a tournament on 24 September.

**Palm Hills Golf Resort:** Course will be closed on 21 August and 1 - 3 September for tournaments.

**Royal Hua Hin Golf Course:** Course will be closed on 26 August and 29 August - 1 September for tournaments.

**Sea Pines Golf Course:** Course will be closed during 9-10 August for maintenance and on 25 August and on 10 September for tournaments.

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## Pattaya

**Greenwood Golf & Resort:** Course will be closed on 5 August for a tournament.

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**Khao Kheow Country Club:** Course A will be undergoing coring greens during 1-4 August. Course B will be undergoing coring greens during 21-31 August. Course will be closed on 18 and 25 August for a tournament.

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**Laem Chabang International Country Club:** Course will be closed on 17 August and on 1 September for tournaments.

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**Pattana Golf Club & Resort:** Course will be closed on 5, 11 and 27 August for tournaments.

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**Pattaya Country Club:** Course will be closed on 9 and 27 September for tournaments.

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**Rayong Green Valley Country Club:** Course will be undergoing fairway maintenance until 30 September. Course will be closed on 5, 18, 25 and 29 August for tournaments.

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**Siam Country Club, Old Course:** Course will be closed every Monday from 24 April - 30 September.

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**Siam Country Club, Plantation Course:** Course will be closed every Monday from 24 April - 30 September.

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**Siam Country Club, Waterside Course:** Course will be closed every Tuesday from 18 April - 26 September.

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**St. Andrews 2000 Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 8 & 11 August and on 9 September for tournaments.

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## Phuket

**Blue Canyon Country Club, Canyon Course:** Course will be undergoing verticut during 7 and 21 August.

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**Blue Canyon Country Club, Lakes Course:** Course will be undergoing verticut during 14 and 28 August. Course will be undergoing coring greens during 4-7 September.

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**Laguna Golf Phuket:** Course will be undergoing verticut on 7, 21 and 22 August. Course will be undergoing topdressing during 28-31 August.

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**Red Mountain Golf Club:** Course will be undergoing coring greens during 4-5 September.

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## Chiang Mai

**Alpine Golf Resort Chiang Mai:** Course C will be undergoing coring greens in August.

Course will be closed on 9 and 25-27 August for tournaments.

**Chiang Mai Highlands Golf & Spa Resort:** Course will be closed on 5 and 10 August for tournaments.

**Gassan Khuntan Golf and Resort:** Course will be closed on 5, 18 and 19 August for tournaments.

**Gassan Legacy Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 5 - 12, 13, 17 19 - 20 and 24 August for tournaments.

**Gassan Marina Golf Club:** Course will be closed until 31 December for renovation.

**Mae Jo Golf Club:** Course will be closed from 31 July - 6 August and 16-18 and 21-27 August for tournaments.

## Chiang Rai

**Happy City Resort:** Course will be closed on 6 August for a tournament.

**Santiburi Chiang Rai Country Club:** Course will be closed on 27 August for a tournament and will undergo coring greens on holes 1-9 during 28-30 August.

## Vietnam

### Danang

**All courses are in good condition.**

### Nha Trang

**Diamond Bay & Villas:** Course will be closed on 19 August for a tournament.

### Saigon

**Jeongsan Country Club:** Course will be closed on 26 August for a tournament.

**Song Be Golf Resort:** Course will be closed on 8, 11 and 25 August for tournaments.

**Twin Doves Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 15 and 22 August for tournaments.

**Vietnam Golf & Country Club:** Course will be closed on 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 28 and 31 August for tournaments.

### Vung Tau

**The Bluffs Ho Tram Strip:** Course will be closed on 6 August for a tournament.

 **Indonesia**

Bali

**Bali National Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 4 and 13 August for tournaments.

**Handara Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 17-19 August for a tournament.

**New Kuta Golf Club:** Course will be closed on 26 August for a tournament.

**Nirwana Bali Golf Club:** Course will be closed from 31 July 2017 - 31 July 2020 for major renovation.

 **Malaysia**

All courses are in good condition.

 **Cambodia**

Siem Reap

All courses are in good condition.

Phnom Penh

All courses are in good condition.

 **Singapore**

All courses are in good condition.

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**GOLF TOURNAMENTS**

<b>Accor Vietnam World Masters Golf Championship - Aug '17</b>		<b>Golfasian Ryder Cup - November 2017</b>		<b>Chiang Mai Amateur Golf Week - November 2017</b>	
 <b>Danang,</b> Vietnam	 <b>13 - 19</b> August, 2017	 <b>Pattaya,</b> Thailand	 <b>1 &amp; 3</b> November, 2017	 <b>Chiang Mai,</b> Thailand	 <b>5 - 11</b> November, 2017
<a href="#">[ FIND OUT MORE ]</a>					

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Amari Hua Hin Amateur  
Golf Week -  
October 2017

Amari Hua Hin Amateur  
Golf Week -  
March 2018

Avani Pattaya Amateur  
Golf Week -  
March 2018

  
Hua Hin,  
Thailand

  
29 Oct.  
- 4 Nov.  
2017

  
Hua Hin,  
Thailand

  
11 - 17  
March, 2018

  
Pattaya,  
Thailand

  
18 - 24  
March, 2018

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## HUA HIN PROPERTIES

### 6 Bedrooms Modern Pool Villa in Hua Hin



This incredible modern property offers the definitive private retreat, representing a place to relax and enjoy the absolute purity and joy of the natural elements.

This is a lovely 6 bedroom, 5 bathroom home designed with spacious open plan living, covered terraces, and plenty of extra storage. This 1,660 square meter property enjoys a beautiful landscaped garden, a 25 m X 5 m lap swimming pool, and a covered car port to keep your vehicle cool during the

daytime. Off to the side of the main house is a private guest house with en-suite bathroom, kitchen and Around the back and side of the house is a laundry

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

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### BEST OF THE BLOG

[Golf in Australia vs.  
Golf in Thailand](#)



### GOLFING TIPS

[Top 5 Tips for Playing Your Best  
While in Asia](#)



Here are my rankings on the golfing in these 2 countries on a scale of 1-10 with 10 being best.

**Quality (30%)**

**Australia (10):** Most courses are set up for serious Australian golfers, who comprise some 10% of the overall population. The average Australian golf course is by far better than most other countries top courses. The top Australian courses include **Royal Melbourne**, Barnbougale Dunes, and **New South Wales**, all of which have hosted major PGA events.

**Thailand (7):** **Thai golf courses** vary from average municipal courses to better ones that cater mainly to golf tourists. The best courses like Thai CC, Siam CC, and Red Mountain all can hold their own when it comes to international golf courses. One Thai course, Black Mountain has even made it to the "100 Best Golf Courses Outside The USA" 2012 list by **Golf Digest**.

**Service (25%)**

**Australia (3):** Service is not something that is synonymous with golfing in Australia...

1. While the umbrella keeps the rain off you, it also keeps the sun off you as well. Carrying your umbrella will decrease the temperature by about 5\* making you feeling much cooler.
2. I always have 3 or 4 gloves that I rotate during my round. So many people I see wearing the same glove all round that gets wet and slippery, the two things that don't give you a good grip in the club.
3. Have a towel handy to dry your hands before each shot, even when its not raining.
4. Drink plenty of fluids and that doesn't mean beer. You should be drinking about 3 litres of water or sports drink during your round to keep up your energy level and to avoid dehydration.
5. Your caddy is a vital part of your game in Asia and they will help you navigate around the golf course and give valuable information on placement of bunkers, water and even the OOB. Don't forget to give them a nice tip at the end of the round, irrespective of how you played.



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

[FOR MORE GOLF TIPS VISIT WWW.GOLFTHINK.COM](http://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 gathered from your golf trips. I can incorporate some in future articles so if you have any suggestions you would like to share, please let me know by **dropping me an email**.

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**Medical Treatment**  
up to  
USD 75,000

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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 !**

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## MEET GOLFSIAN 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.

**December 11 - 14** International Golf Travel Market (IGTM) (Cannes, France)

**April 22 - 25** Asia Golf Tourism Convention (AGTC) (Manila, Philippines)

**ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT WITH GOLFSIAN AT ONE OF THESE EXHIBITS.**

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Toll Free US/Canada

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Golfasian en français