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## Asian Golf Nation - December 2010



Dear Travel Partners & Golf Travelers,



It's the last month of 2010 and I hope this newsletter finds you with great plans arranged for the holidays with friends and family - and hopefully coming on a golf journey with us here in Asia! This month we're gearing up for the busiest time of the year in golf travel and are ready to host golfers from around the world on the world's friendliest 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.

### Golf news from around the region:

#### Thailand

 Thailand has received a great deal of exposure and recognition recently. The Condé Nast Traveler 2010 Readers' Choice Awards recently honored Bangkok and [Chiang Mai](#) as the #1 and #2 ranked Top Cities In Asia, respectively. On the golf front Thailand further bolstered its reputation as the epicenter of Asian golf with last month's visit of Tiger Woods and a haul of hardware from the region's top annual course awards.







The fifth edition of the biannual **Royal Trophy**, the Ryder Cup style competition pitting top touring pros from the continents of Europe and Asia, has been scheduled to take place on 7-9 January 2011 at Black Mountain Golf Club, a member of [Golf in a Kingdom: The Thai Golf Experience](#), the consortium of top resort courses and hotels.

Thailand has long been the preferred golf tourism venue in Asia - where golfers from across Asia-Pacific play on holiday. But as the overall focus of golf worldwide continues to shift East, Thailand has assumed an ever-larger role, especially in the tournament realm.

[Black Mountain Golf Club in Hua Hin](#) will host the Asian Tour's Black Mountain Masters later this month, while [Siam Country Club in Pattaya](#), entertains the world's top women golfers at the LPGA's season-opening Honda PTT LPGA Thailand in January. Then there is the fifth edition of the Royal Trophy, pitting top touring pros from the continents of Europe and Asia. This event has been scheduled to take place on




#### In this Issue

-  [Regional Golf News](#)
-  [Featured Golf Course - Thai Country Club](#)
-  [Featured Resort - Bangkok Marriott Resort & Spa](#)
-  [Golfasian Announces 2011 Amateur Golf Series](#)
-  [Best of the Blog \[thailandgolfzone.com\]\(http://thailandgolfzone.com\)](#)
-  [Golfasian Trade/Roadshows](#)



#### 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!

7-9 January 2011 also at Black Mountain Golf Club.


The tournament scene in Thailand is clearly booming, and this growth extends fun, competitive opportunities to golf holiday-makers as well. For more information see our [Amateur Golf events](#) planned for 2011.



Thailand's golf quality was driven home during the recent Asia-Pacific Golf Summit, which culminated in the annual "Best of Asia" awards. Golf in a Kingdom courses swept honors for "Best Course in Thailand" with Thai Country Club in Bangkok topping Black Mountain and [Banyan Golf Club in Hua Hin](#). But Thailand's top courses also claimed several regional honors. Thai Country Club was runner-up to Royal Melbourne GC as "Best Course in Asia-Pacific". Black Mountain Golf Club earned "Best Pro Shop in Asia-Pacific" and placed third in "Best Championship Course in Asia-Pacific". Banyan Golf Club was runner up for "Best Clubhouse in Asia-Pacific". Last, but not least, Thailand was once again named, "Best Golf Destination in Asia-Pacific", ahead of Australia and China.


Why wait any longer? Now seems like the perfect time to discover why Thailand is considered one of the best places in the world to golf.

### Vietnam

 [Vietnam's Golf Coast](#) is getting stronger. Sir Nick Faldo was in central Vietnam recently to visit Faldo Design's golf course design project at Laguna Lang Co, near Hue. Appointed by Banyan Tree Holdings, Faldo's 18-hole course will form the centerpiece of a luxury integrated resort complex. Also in the area and under construction is the Bana Hills Golf Club. With both courses scheduled to be completed late in 2011 and joining the already 2 best courses in Vietnam, the [Montgomerie Links Vietnam](#) and the Greg Norman designed [Danang Golf Club](#) golf in Vietnam's Central Coast will certainly get better and better. Why not get a head start and be the first offer your clients the chance to experience this great golf and beach destination this winter?



### Cambodia

 Six years ago there were no international standard golf courses in Cambodia. Today there are **three 18 hole championship venues, all in Siem Reap**. Siem Reap is best known as the home of UNESCO World Heritage site Angkor Wat and several other ancient Khmer temples. and that continues to be the main draw for foreign visitors, however now there is reason for golfers to stick around a few extra days.

[Phokeethra Country Club](#) was the first course in the area and is the home of the Asian Tour's Johnnie Walker Cambodian Open. A challenging Nick Faldo layout, [Angkor Golf Resort](#), was added a couple of years ago, followed by the Japanese designed Siem Reap Lake GC. Read more about the '[Best Cambodia Golf Destinations](#)'!



Peak travel season is upon us and it's a perfect time escape the cold at home and experience golf in Asia at its very best! From world-class golf courses, to once-of-a-kind authentic cultural activities and boutique golf resorts, we're on the pulse of what's hot in golf this season. We can't wait to see you



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### Asian Golf Monthly




Golfasian

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.

### Privacy

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

### Forward

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

### Follow Us



here!

Remember if you want to get regular updates about golf in Indochina, then [sign-up](#) for uninterrupted email delivery of this newsletter. In addition, all persons signing up will automatically receive the latest "Thailand Golf Insider Tips" special report.

Please contact the [Asian Golf Experts](#) at [info\(at\)golfasian\(dot\)com](mailto:info(at)golfasian(dot)com).

We look forward to a smooth season and wish you success. Until the next newsletter, happy golfing!

*Mark Siegel  
Managing Director of Golfasian*

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 **Featured Golf Course - Thai Country Club**

Thai Country Club is a prestigious member's course is managed by the Peninsula Hotel, Bangkok and Hong Kong. Thai County is often considered the best in Bangkok as it sets the standard for service excellence.

Designed under USPGA international standards by Denis Griffiths, Thai County opened in December 1996. The design adapts to everyday member use up to a very tough challenge for major international tournaments.

The 7,157-yard course, from the professional tees, was the venue for the 1997 Asian Honda Classic, where Tiger Woods cruised to a comfortable 10-stroke victory after shooting a final round of 68 for a 20 under-par total of 268 for the championship. One year later the second round of the 1998 Johnnie Walker Super Tour was also played in ideal conditions at Thai Country Club, won in style by Vijay Singh, who carded a magnificent score of 66 - two strokes ahead of Ernie Els and Jesper Parnevik. More recently Thai Country Club hosted the 2007 and 2008 Volvo Masters. [\[Read More about one of Thailand's Best Golf Courses\]](#)



 **Featured Resort - Bangkok Marriott Resort & Spa**

Bangkok Marriott Resort & Spa is a city resort with a difference. This luxury hotel has every 5-star amenity for which an urban business or leisure traveler could wish. However, with its classical Thai architecture, tropical gardens and cool river breezes, the Bangkok Marriott Resort & Spa offers all the tranquility and kick-back appeal of a resort. Enjoy the expansive river frontage with its fragrant gardens and canal running through the grounds.

The hotel is located across the Chao Phraya River from the city center, a distance spanned quickly, conveniently and delightfully by the resort's private shuttle-boat service. It docks beside the nearest Skytrain station every 20 minutes, opening up to guests all of downtown Bangkok and its array of enchanting historic sites, palaces, monuments and temples, night markets, floating markets, restaurants and shopping districts. [\[Find out more about one of Thailand's Best Hotels\]](#)



 **Big Thanks to All Visitors at IGTM 2010!**

**Golf Travel Partners**




**We are Member of**



Together with the **Banyan Resort, Chiang Mai Highland, Muang Kaew Golf Course**, members of [Golf in a Kingdom](#), the Tourism Authority of Thailand, and the [Vietnam Golf Coast](#), we would like to thank all agents who visited our booth at this year's IGTM in Valencia.

Please contact the [Asian Golf Experts](#) at [info\(at\)golfasian\(dot\)com](mailto:info(at)golfasian(dot)com).



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The Thailand Golf Experience

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## Golfasian Announces 2011 Amateur Golf Series

Golfasian is launching a [3 event amateur golf series for 2011](#) for golfers from around the world. The events will be marketed and sold via Golfasian's global network of golf tour operator partners.

As a pioneer in the golf tourism industry, Golfasian promotes the Thailand golf product to individual golfers who want the best value-for-money unique golf experiences, with personalized service, privacy and simplicity. Now Golfasian is branching out into the lucrative amateur golf market to address the needs of golfers who want the same level of personalized value-for-money service, but also prefer to tailor their golf travels around a structured and competitive amateur golf event. [\[View the events here\]](#)



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

### 8 Do's & Don'ts When Golfing In Thailand

1. Given that you'll be out on the course for at least four hours do make sure you put plenty of sunscreen on. It's also advisable to wear a hat or cap. The Sun when [golf in Phuket](#) can be the strongest compared to all other [Thailand golf destinations](#).
2. Although golfing in Thailand is relaxed, don't expect to be allowed onto the course wearing inappropriate clothing. Do wear a collared shirt with slacks, Bermuda shorts, or a skirt (provided you are a lady). Mock collars (aka Tiger Woods) are also accepted at all [Thailand golf courses](#).

[Read more about 8 Do's & Don'ts When Golfing In Thailand...](#)

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.

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## Golfing Tips - Putting on Thailand Golf Courses

As if putting wasn't hard enough already, you pack your clubs to come play in Thailand and you come up against a different style of grass that you haven't played before.

If you're from the tropics then you are familiar putting with, against and across the grain.

The grain generally follows either the direction in which water drains off the green, or it grows towards the setting sun or a water source. On severe slopes it will grow towards the drainage path. The shiny/dark rule works also when looking at the grass on a golf course. Take a look at a putt standing both behind the ball and behind the hole. If the grass on the green looks "shiny" or is a lighter shade than the grass in the other direction, it means you are down grain and the putt will tend be faster and roll out a bit more. When the grass is growing away from you it reflects the light at a different angle than when it's growing towards you, that's why it looks different. If you see no change in color, take a look from either side, as you may have a cross grain putt. Cross grain putts are even more frustrating, because even if the slope of the green indicates that a putt will break slightly from left to right, the grain may hold it. Conversely, a right to left putt with right to left grain might break quite a bit more that it appears.



Read more about the '[Putting on Thailand Golf Courses](#)'!

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

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

You can find us at the following exhibitions:

- January 27 - 29, 2011 - 58th PGA Merchandise Show (Orlando)

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



## About Us & Contacts

Golfasian Co., Ltd.



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 me by e-mail](#), I welcome the help.

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Toll Free US/Canada: 1-866-550-2284

Golf Hotline Thailand: +66 (0) 81 987 3170

E-mail: [info@golfasian.com](mailto:info@golfasian.com)

Website: [www.golfasian.com](http://www.golfasian.com)

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

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