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Asian Golf Travel Nation - January 2014



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Dear Golf Travelers,



Welcome to the January 2014 edition of the Asian Golf Travel Nation, the source for news breaking information about Asian Golf. 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.

Happy New Year! January is one of the most joyous times for Asian golf travelers. From the world-class courses of [Golf In A Kingdom](#) to the new spectacular tracks along the [Vietnam Golf Coast](#), there is an array of golf destinations across Asia that are in full swing (no pun intended) for independent and group golf travelers. Our golf resorts range from boutique properties to private pool villas. Golfers looking for

adventure can explore the rain forests of Borneo or experience the ancient Kingdom of Angkor. For gastronomic choices golf gourmets can indulge at one of Bangkok's fine dining establishments high above the City of Angels or dine at a Michelin starred restaurant in any number of Vietnam's main golfing destinations.

I am sure the as winter sets in you can feel the chill. Here the weather is also noticeably cooler (sunny and in the mid-20's centigrade) too, which is perfect for golfing, and this will continue for the next 2-3 months. What better place to get a jump on the 2014 golf season? Golf, culture, affordability, and world-class services make SE Asia perfectly suited for an unforgettable golf experience for you.

At Golfasian, I would like to welcome Stephen van der Merwe as General Manager of our newly created real estate division. If you ever thought about owning your own place or becoming a long term renter in one of our golf destinations, then Stephen is person to speak to. He has a wealth of experience and knowledge and with our partnership with Century 21 Stephen has access to 100's of listings, many of which are located right on the area's top golf courses.

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

[➔ Visit Golfasian Today!](#)

Golf news from around the region:

Thailand



Pattaya: Renowned for "nearly free" green fees, Century Golf Club re-opened and is now the Pattavia Century Golf Club. The hilly countryside layout has seen upgrades to greens, tee boxes, bunkers, and fairways and may now be the best

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value-for-money course in the Pattaya area. A new clubhouse with restaurant and locker rooms is under construction. The course is around 1 hour from the center of Pattaya and should be good for Pattaya golfers looking for a "new" course at reasonable prices. Golf carts are optional for those who like to walk.




Pattaya City

Pattaya: Pattaya's quirkiest golf course comprised on 18 holes spread out over 13 fairways, [Silky Oak](#), re-opened after a brief closure over a land dispute. Eighteen more holes are being built, this time with individual fairways, and expected completion is late 2014. Once finished the 72 holes (Silky Oak 36, [St. Andrews](#) Hill 18, and the Rayong Green Valley 18) will edge out 63 holes at [Siam Country Club](#) the title for Thailand's biggest golf complex. Boy, when things happen in Pattaya, they really are done on a big scale!



Silky Oak Country Club, Pattaya

Vietnam

 **Dalat:** All 18 holes at Tuyen Lam Golf Course are now open for play. This course is located in a huge pine forest near Tuyen Lam Lake, only 6 kilometers from Dalat. Not to be outdone, Royale City Dalat will be renamed Dalat @ 1200 Country Club and is going ahead with the remaining 9 holes. The 1200 name is symbolic of the courses altitude above sea level. Very cute! In any case, once completed Dalat will have three 18-hole courses creating yet another premium Asian golf destination.



Tuyen Lam Golf Course, Dalat, Vietnam

Malaysia

 **Langkawi:** We received an update last week from the [Els Club Teluk Datai](#) that they have been delayed again. Opening is now planned for March 2014. This is really a shame as Langkawi would be a much better golf destination with this course. Let's hope things get straightened out soon and Langkawi can become a viable golf destination in 2015.



The Els Club Teluk Datai, Langkawi

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.


The golf, culture, and beauty of SE Asia are perfectly suited for an unforgettable golf experience. This includes playing private members clubs and championship golf courses, enjoying the world's best cuisines and entertainment, taking daily spas and massages, and best of all at prices so reasonable that you will think the costs are too low!


Tailor-made itineraries to your specific travel preferences, expectations, group size, and budgets are our specialty; contact us for a [competitive quote](#).


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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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!



Golf Lessons

 **Centara World Masters Golf Championship 15-21 June 2014 | Hua Hin, Thailand**



CENTARA WORLD MASTERS GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP
15-21 June 2014
Hua Hin, Thailand

We invite you to join club golfers from around the world for Asia's biggest and richest amateur week of golf.

www.thailandworldmasters.com

CENTARA
HOTELS & RESORTS

From US \$ 1,190
6 Nights, all inclusive!

Register Now!

Thailand's BEST WEEK of Golf & Fun

Important Note: Due to popular request, the Early Bird Offer has been extended to January 31st, 2014. Sign up before that date, and receive a US \$100 discount on the tournament package!

<http://www.thailandworldmasters.com/registration/>

We invite you to join golfers from around the world for [Asia's Biggest & Richest Amateur Golf Week](#). Joining you in Hua Hin, Thailand will be more than 600 golfers from more than 20 countries who share your love of the game and your thirst for fun. The 72-hole stableford competition features numerous prizes and gifts, plus nightly parties and entertainment. At the heart of the event is the camaraderie developed among participants. This is where lifelong friendships are forged.

So long as you are over 35 and have an official golf handicap, you can tee it up at the Masters. There are 15 tournament divisions based on age and handicap.

The Centara World Masters will see you play at Hua Hin's world class golf courses with all the trappings of a major professional tournament. Black Mountain, Banyan, Majestic Creek and Imperial Lake View will give you the ultimate golfing experience. You will be spoiled by Thailand's friendly caddies.

Much more than a golf tournament, there are lively social and entertainment events every night. International acts will be a highlight at the welcome and farewell celebrations. Thailand's biggest 19th hole moves each night to stunning rooftop, beach, and poolside settings. A decadent farewell dinner caps off the fun filled week.

This event is Thailand's richest amateur tournament with US \$30,000 in prizes to be won. Whether you come on your own or with a party of friends, just don't miss it!

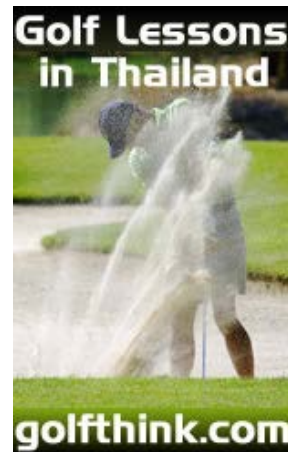
Visit www.thailandworldmasters.com for event updates and join our [Facebook Page](#).

[\[Register today!\]](#)

 **Golf Tuition and Coaching Breaks**

Taking a golfing holiday that includes tuition and coaching can be the best way to learn the game or to take it to the next level, whatever that level is.


Golf can be a tough game to learn or make improvements in, the main reason for that is attention. Busy lives and other priorities distract you, but when you come away with the sole intention of developing your golf skills spending 3 hours plus a day



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

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Golf Travel Partners



on it, the task becomes easier.

We are happy to announce our partnership with PGA Member coaches . The coaches will work with players from beginner to Tour Professionals, young and old and have been running intensive golf break tuition for more than 7 years.

[For more information contact us directly.](#)



Golfasian Golf Tuition & Coaching



Hua Hin Properties

Golfasian's new property division has listings of golf course villas and beachfront apartments for rent and for sale.

Find your perfect holiday escape in one of the most popular resorts in Thailand.

Feel free to [stop by our office](#) and see what we can offer or take [our property tour](#) (free of charge).

For a complete listing of Thailand properties [visit our website](#).



Hua Hin Properties



Golf Travel Testimonials

Paul,

Firstly, Happy New Year!

Just wanted to email you to thank you and all the staff at Golfasian for an amazing last 10 days! Mandie and I have nothing but good things to say about the way the holiday was organised, and the staff who looked after us.

Everyone was on time, and we hardly had to lift a finger to do anything. All drivers were courteous and treated us like King and Queen, especially Ake who took us to Thai Country Club. He was wonderful! We were also made aware that we were playing behind your boss Mark at Thai CC.

We were blessed with spectacular weather and all 4 courses were in spectacular condition!

The both of us could have not been happier and had a holiday of a lifetime! It will be the start of an addiction I am sure!

Thank you so much for everything.

Please pass on our thanks to all at Golf Asian!

Anthony
Australia, January 2014

[\[Read more golf travel testimonials\]](#)

[\[Find out about Golfasian's Travel Satisfaction Guarantee\]](#)



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Pattaya - A Personal Destination Review by Paul Tudor

One of my favorite destinations in Thailand and one of Golfasian's most popular would have to be Pattaya. A place that has everything you could ever need as a golf tourist.

Only a short 90 minute drive from the Bangkok International Airport the area features [20 golf courses](#), many of which have hosted professional events and/or been designed by famous golf course architects. Pattaya's golf courses are located within 30-40 minutes from the city center which makes getting to/from the courses very convenient. The area also includes many fantastic beach resorts and accommodations to fit every style of travel and budget.



Siam Country Club Plantation Course

Apart from the great golf, there are many non-golf activities I like in Pattaya and the surrounding areas. Its famous nightlife is a draw card for many golf tourists. My favorite activity, when I am not golfing, is taking a cruise to one of the offshore islands and lazing on the beach. Other attractions of interest are the Nong Nuch Tropical Gardens, a local winery, the famous lady boy cabaret shows, and numerous temples and floating markets.

[\[Read more golf articles\]](#)



Featured Golf Course - Siam Country Club, Old Course

Siam Country Club is one of the more famous Thailand golf courses, being built more than 35 years ago it was the first privately owned golf course in the country. Over the years the golf course has hosted several international golf tournaments including the Honda LPGA Classic (it will also hold next month's Honda LPGA Classic). As expected the course is impeccably maintained, in kept in excellent playing condition.

The Old Course at Siam Country Club is set in the low hills just a few kilometers from Pattaya and contains more than its fair share of mature trees, shrubs and plants. Various fruit trees on the course give one the impression of being in an orchard, especially when in season. The abundant 'wildlife' in the form of sculptured bushes and hedges are a feature unique to Siam Country Club.



Siam Country Club, Old Course, Pattaya

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



Featured Hotel - Hilton Pattaya

The Hilton Pattaya can be found above Central Festival Pattaya Beach complex, the largest complex in Pattaya. The accommodation boasts exclusive rooms each having a distinctive sea view. The Hilton Hotel Pattaya is an ideal venue for Pattaya golfers looking for the best-in-class facilities, location, and security.

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

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Golf Trip Idea: Pattaya 2 Week Golf Holiday

Spend two weeks in exciting Pattaya. Golf at the best Pattaya golf course including Siam Country Club, site of the LPGA Honda Classic and Laem Chabang International Country Club; a classic Jack Nicklaus design. Choose to stay at a luxurious beach resort or select a hotel near the center of Pattaya, Walking Street, and all the action.

[[Northern Thailand Golf & Culture Holiday Itinerary...](#)]



2014 Amateur Golf Weeks!

Sign Up!

Hua Hin, Pattaya, Phuket, Chiang Mai, Cambodia, Vietnam



Hua Hin Amateur Week is just 7 weeks away now and we have just 8 positions left for this tournament open. The Banyan Resort has been an overwhelming success for bookings as tournament hotel and the remaining 10 positions that book at this hotel will receive a Golfasian Boston bag as part of their package. [Black Mountain](#) is hosting the Kings Cup tournament on the Asian tour and [Hua Hin was voted the No 1 golf destination for 2013](#) so there is a lot to be looking forward to in 2014 for Hua Hin.

Pattaya Amateur Week is held 8-15th March and we just have 10 positions left to fill for this event with just 8 weeks to go. Sabai Resort is hosting this event and we have 56 of the 62 players staying at this hotel.

[Siam Country Club \(Old Course\) is hosting the LPGA event](#) in the last week in Feb and we will be playing there in the second week in March so the course will be in tip top tournament condition for us.

For full details on both these events check out our [tournaments page](#).



Golf Course Maintenance Updates

Thailand

- Bangkok
 - All golf courses in Bangkok are in great condition.
- Hua Hin
 - Majestic Creek Country Club - Coring green and course maintenance until March 2014.
 - Banyan Golf Club, Black Mountain Golf Club, Imperial Lake View, Majestic Creek Country Club, Palm Hills Golf Club and Residence, Royal Hua Hin Golf Course, Sea Pine Golf Course, and Springfield Royal Country Club are in excellent condition.
- Pattaya
 - Siam Country Club, Old Course - Course will be closed for the Honda LPGA from 3 - 27 February, 2014.
 - Burapha Golf Course, Greenwood Golf and Resort, Khao Kheow Country Club, Laem Chabang International Country Club, Pattana Sport Club, Phoenix Golf & Country Club, Siam Country Club, St. Andrews 2000 Golf Club & Burapha Golf Club are in excellent condition.
- Phuket
 - Laguna Phuket Golf Club - **9 holes (starting with the back 9) will be closed for 18 months from July 2013 onwards.** The front 9 are playable until March 2014, while the back 9 are under renovation. The front 9 will start renovation in March 2014 while the freshly renovated back 9 will have been reopened for play.
 - Blue Canyon Country Club, Lakes Course - Vericut and top dressing on 13 January, 2014
 - Blue Canyon Country Club, Canyon Course - Vericut and top dressing on 20-25 January, 2014
 - Loch Palm Golf Club, Mission Hills Phuket, Phuket Country Club, Red Mountain Golf Club are in excellent condition.
- Chiang Mai
 - Gassan Lake City - Course renovation. Expected completion date in April 2014.
 - Alpine Golf Resort & Chiang Mai Highlands Golf and Spa, Chiang Mai Inthanon Golf Resort, Mae Jo Golf Club, Royal Chiang Mai Golf Resort are in excellent condition.
- Chiang Rai
 - Santiburi Chiang Rai Country Club is in good condition.

Vietnam

- Hanoi
 - Hanoi Golf Club, Heron Lake Golf Club and Resort, Tam Dao Golf Club - Closed every Monday morning for maintenance.
 - Chi Linh Golf Club - 9 holes are closed every Monday for maintenance.
 - Van Tri Golf Club, Kings Island Golf Resort are in excellent condition
- Saigon
 - Song Be Golf Resort is in good condition
 - Twin Doves Golf Club, Vietnam Golf and Country Club are in excellent condition
 - Long Thanh Golf Course - coring green from 6-8 January at holes 10 & 18 at the Lakeside course, from 13-14 January at holes 10 & 18 at the Hill course, from 20-21 January at holes 1 & 9 at the Lakeside course, and from 27-28 January at holes 1 & 9 at the Hill course.
- Danang
 - Danang Golf Club, Laguna Lang Co Golf Club & Montgomerie Links Vietnam are in excellent condition
- Phan Thiet
 - Sea Link Golf Course, Ocean Dunes Golf Club are in excellent condition
- Nha Trang
 - Vinpearl Golf Club and Diamond Bay Golf Course are in great condition

Cambodia

- Siem Reap
 - Angkor Golf Resort - Verti-cutting and top dressing from 06 January until 10 January 2014.

Malaysia

- Kuala Lumpur
 - Saujana Golf & Country Club - Palm 1 will be under renovation from 1 August 2013 for 8 months. Palm 10 - immediately after completion of Palm 1 and will go on for 8 months.

Indonesia

- Bintan
 - Ria Bintan Golf Course - Golf course maintenance is usually done on Mondays. At any time only 9 holes will be closed while the other 18 holes remain open.



Golf Tournaments

Hua Hin Amateur Golf Week - March 2014

Date: March 1 - 8, 2014 | Location: Hua Hin, Thailand
[\[Find out more\]](#)

Pattaya Amateur Golf Week - March 2014

Date: March 8 - 15, 2014 | Location: Pattaya, Thailand
[\[Find out more\]](#)

Phuket Amateur Golf Week - June 2014

Date: June 8 - 14, 2014 | Location: Phuket, Thailand
[\[Find out more\]](#)

Centara World Masters Golf Championship - June 2014

Date: June 15 - 21, 2014 | Location: Hua Hin, Thailand [\[Find out more\]](#)

Cambodia Amateur Golf Week - July 2014

Date: July 27 - August 4, 2014 | Location: Siem Reap, Cambodia [\[Find out more\]](#)

Vietnam Amateur Golf Week - August 2014

Date: August 4 - 10, 2014 | Location: Danang, Vietnam [\[Find out more\]](#)

Pattaya Amateur Golf Week - October 2014

Date: October 18 - 25, 2014 | Location: Pattaya, Thailand [\[Find out more\]](#)

Chiang Mai Amateur Golf Week - October 2014

Date: October 25 - November 01, 2014 | Location: Chiang Mai, Thailand [\[Find out more\]](#)



Best of the Blog Thailandgolfzone.com

Will Thailand Become The World's Biggest Golf Destination?

Lately [Thailand golf](#) tourism has skyrocketed to an estimated 750,000 arrivals in 2012, up 50% over the past three years. This is worth an estimated US\$2 billion in revenue to the Kingdom. There is no doubt that [Thai golf](#) tourism is riding on the back of a general tourism explosion, with total foreign arrivals doubling over the last seven years to more than 22 million in 2012.

While I personally would like [Thailand golf](#) to become the biggest golf destination in the world, I doubt that this will ever happen. Click on the link to read why:



Banyan Golf Club, Hua Hin

[\[Read the entire article\]](#)

Other golf stories can be found at the [Thailand Golf Zone](#), [Vietnam Golf Zone](#) and [Phuket Golf Zone](#) where there are over 600 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 - Reading the Greens

You may want to consult with your caddie for advice, as they are often good players themselves. At top clubs like Thai CC and Alpine CC they are encouraged to play, and some of them play off single figure handicaps. To help you understand, the greens in Thailand have a lot of grain in them and if the grass is shiny, then it's down grain and fast and if the grass looks darker it's into the grain and your putt will be slower and takes more borrow.

Don't forget to tip your caddies, they do rely on you for their income!

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

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

For more golf tips visit www.golfthink.com



Reading Greens - Ask your caddie for help



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:

- January 22 - 24, 2014 - PGA Merchandise Show (Orlando, Florida, USA)
- February 13 - 16, 2014 - China Golf Media FAM Trip - Golf Coast Vietnam (Danang, Vietnam)
- March 31 - April 06, 2014 - North Asia Golf Media FAM Trip Central Thailand (Bangkok, Pattaya, Hua Hin, Thailand)
- April 20 - 25, 2014 - ASEAN Golf Media FAM Trip (Bangkok & Hua Hin, Thailand)
- April 28 - May 07, 2014 - Thailand Golf Road Show - South Africa (Johannesburg, Cape Town)
- July 24 - 31, 2014 - Thailand Golf Road Show - Australia (Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane)



[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](#), we welcome the help.

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