Indonesia's Best Golf Tour **Best Inbound Golf Best Inbound Golf** Best Inbound Golf Tour Operator Operator Tour Operator Tour Operator **February 2019 Edition Dear Golf Travelers,** A Happy New Year to All Golf Pigs! February 5th, 2019 is celebrated around the world as the start of traditional Chinese Lunar New Year. These next 12 months will be known as "The Year of the Pig" in the Chinese zodiac cycle of 12 animals. Chinese people believe that each of these animals has distinctly different characters. So, if you golf and were born in 1935, 1947, 1959, CHINESE NEW YEAR 1971, 1983, or 1995, then you are a Golf Pig. So whatever Zodiac Golfer you are, I send you a special Golfasian greeting for the coming year: "Gung Xi Fat Choy" and may 2019 be the year for your golfing dreams to come true! And Happy Tet in Vietnam. Vietnam's traditional New Year, known as Tet, coincides with Chinese New Year and will be celebrated this year over the period February 2-10th. Tet is one of the nation's most important and popular festive holidays. It is a time for reunions when people return home to spend time with their families and elders. It is also a time for parties and sharing of best wishes for a happy, healthy, peaceful and prosperous year ahead. I wish all our friends and colleagues in Vietnam a Happy New Year, and the best of everything for 2019! This February edition of the Asian Golf Travel Nation 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. Complete <u>full-service</u> itineraries created for your specific travel preferences, expectations, group size, and budgetary requirements are our specialty. Please contact us anytime for a competitive <u>quote</u>. Mark Siegel Managing Director **GOLF NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION** Bandung, Indonesia **Vietnam** If you're looking for Greg Norman, there's a Indonesia's golf hotspot, actual cool spot, has good chance that he's in Vietnam going by the just become better with the opening of Parahyangan Golf Bandung. Parahyangan, name of 'Ambassador Norman.' Last month he designed by Bob Moore of JMP Golf Design, came on board as Vietnam's tourism ambassador claiming that in his 40 years in sets up as two courses in one with 9-holes laid golf, Vietnam stands out as the country with out on a mountain ridge and 9-holes set in the the most potential. There are three Norman deep valley floor. Course conditioning and facilities are first-class and its great to see designed courses open for play in Vietnam, BRG Danang, The Bluffs, and KN Links, Indonesia's continuing golf development. Bandung may not be so well-known in another five in construction, and 21 more in the pipeline. Some of the new sites include international circles but for me its one of the coastal dunes that dwarf anything seen to most pleasant areas for golf in SE Asia due to date, the first course in the Mekong Delta, and the cooling temperatures and more laid back a new course in Sapa, in the far northwest, culture as compared to the bigger cities. Now, there is an even better reason to visit! and where it snows in winter. That's right snow in Vietnam! Pattaya, Thailand The latest Thailand golf course is officially open and getting rave feedback from our golfers. Laid out in a stunning location near Silverlake Winery, Chee Chan Golf Resort plays like a links course with very few trees. The facility offers five-star services and is on par or with the other premium Pattaya golf courses. If your planning to be in the area, then be sure to include Chee Chan in your must-play list, its that good! **GOLF DESTINATION REVIEW: Desaru Coast, Malaysia** A personal destination review from Stephen James Havrilla Group General Manager for The Els Club Malaysia. After 20 years with Troon Golf and having the pleasure to be part of many different golf properties from around the world, it still amazes me when I see a destination like Desaru Coast. It is more than just a golf heaven here, there is so much to do for the whole family you will definitely need a few days to spare. **Desaru Coast** spans over 3,900 acres along a pristine 17km beachfront facing the South China Sea, and is easily accessible via road, air and sea. The destination is also home to renowned hospitality brands for luxury resorts and lifestyle products such as the Westin Desaru Coast Resort, Hard Rock Hotel Desaru Coast, The One & Only, Anantara Desaru Coast Resort & Villas and even the Desaru Coast Adventure Water Park, which make it a perfect vacation destination away from the main city of **Johor Baharu** and our neighbouring country of Singapore, which is just a short ferry ride or a two hour drive across the causeway. I enjoy many things about Desaru Coast and the surrounding areas such as the many beaches, the local food stalls in the heart of Desaru, the Desaru Fruit Farm with their wildlife, fresh fruits and mango fields. You can also enjoy the local seafood right on the beach front, but be careful that some of the dishes can get a bit spicy but still a must try. Read the entire Destination Review FEATURED GOLF COURSE AND HOTEL The Els Club Desaru Coast, The Westin Desaru Coast Resort **Ocean Course** Located in the heart of Desaru coast, between The Els Club Desaru Coast Ocean Course offers 27 holes of tournament-ready golf The Els Club Ocean and Valley courses and close to the Hard Rock Hotel, the Westin designed by Ernie Els. Golfers experience **Desaru Coast Resort** is the perfect 5\* three distinctly different 9-hole courses, the accommodation for golfers who want to spend Lakes (Par 36), Coast (Par 36), and the Ridge a golf holiday at the Desaru Coast. (Par 37). With multiple tee boxes on each hole, the golf course meanders through The Westin Desaru Coast Resort features 275 natural wetlands and lakes as it makes its way light and airy guest rooms and suites with thru the spectacular natural rolling terrain set thoughtful amenities to ensure a memorable alongside the South China Sea. It provides a stay. Rooms and suites overlook the South challenge for all skill levels. Each hole on the China sea and open coastal views - perfect for Ocean Course bears the Els mark of strategy, a golf holiday in Malaysia. beauty, and elegance. Read More Read More FEATURED GOLF PACKAGE **Desaru & Johor Golf Tour** With the addition of the Els Club, Ocean and Valley courses, Desaru and Johor are a perfect combination for golfers looking for a high quality and value for money golfing holiday. Desaru is located just 1 hour from Johor and easily accessible from Singapore. Spend a few nights in Desaru relaxing on the beach and finish the tour in the Johor city area taking advantage of the many shopping malls, restaurants and nightlife. View the complete tour itinerary **GOLF TOURNAMENT CALENDAR Amari Hua Hin AVANI Pattaya 2 Ball Golf Centara World Masters Skins Golf Week Golf Championship Championship** 9 - 15 Jun. 2019 16 - 22 Jun. 2019 10 - 16 Mar. 2019 **Mercure Pattaya Men's AccorHotels Vietnam Open Golf Week World Masters** 8 - 14 Sep. 2019 15 - 21 Sep. 2019 You've never been pampered at a golf tournament like this before. 0 - 16 March 2019 in Hua Hin, Thaila Play with new people every day of a similar age and handicap. Golfasian GolGalfing THALLAGTO aslangolf Inside Golf www.huahingolfweek.com **Special for Golfasian Newsletter Subscribers:** Register by 15 February and get THB 5,000 (~USD 150) off per room! Travelling with a group of 4 or more? Get in touch for even bigger discounts. Register Today! **MEET OUR SALES TEAM** AJ Ms A Ohm Director of Group Sales Sales Team Manager Senior Sales Executive Jim Paul lan Hua Hin & Phuket GM International Sales International Sales Richard Nena Marco International Sales International Sales International Sales Win **Bank Bagus** Indonesia Sales Phuket Sales Sales Executive Bill Sophie Khoa Vietnam Sales Vietnam Sales Vietnam Sales Quy Meya Su China Sales Vietnam Sales Cambodia & Myanmar Sales PHOTO OF THE MONTH Prohackers Group having an awesome time at **Phoenix Gold Golf & Country Club**. **BEST OF THE INTERNET BEST OF OUR BLOGS GOLF TIPS** MAXELE Which Golf Ball Should I Play in Sun, Sand & Golf - A Tropical Paradise, A Golfer's Retreat Thailand? Of all the variables that determine a golf ball's Since time immemorial, Bali has been known performance compression may be the most for its glittering seas, exotic cuisine, and mysterious. You'll know it as a number on the golden sands. But that's just the tip of the ball, usually 90 or 100. If you see slow motion 'sand' berg. There's much more to Bali than videos of balls impacting the club face you'll just resorts and beaches, especially for golf see it as the ball deforming or "mushing". The lovers who will find everything they're looking ball launches as this compression releases. for in this tropical paradise – from challenging Generally, professional advice says the faster courses to easier ones for beginners. Draped with stunning natural beauty and different you swing the less compression you need but there are way more issues to consider namely degrees of difficulty, Bali golf courses are spin speed generated, feel, control, etc... some of the finest you'll find... Find Out Here! Read it all here! **Update Your Personal Information** Want to change your preferred email address where you receive our newsletters or complete your profile with your name and travel preferences? Update Your Infol **GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCES & CLOSURES Thailand** Bangkok • Kiarti Thanee Country Club: Course will be closed until May 2019 for renovation. • Lam Luk Ka Country Club: Course will be closed on 15-16 April for Songkran. • Nikanti Golf Club: Course will be undergoing annual coring greens during 1-8 April. • Thai Country Club: Course will be closed during 13-16 June for a tournament. • Thana City Country Club: Course will be closed on 22 February for a tournament. Hua Hin • Banyan Golf Club: Course will be closed on 17 February for the 10th Year Anniversary. • Black Mountain Golf Club: Course will be busy during 10-14 March 2019 for the Children's World Tournament. • Royal Hua Hin Golf Course: Course will be closed on 16 & 23 February and on 16 & 23 March for tournaments. Pattaya • Rayong Green Valley Country Club: Course will be closed on 18-19 April for Songkran. • Siam Country Club, Old Course: Course will be closed 4-28 February for the Honda LPGA Tournament. Course will be closed for maintenance during 1-5 April. • Siam Country Club, Waterside: Course will be closed every Tuesday during May -September. Course will be closed during 20-24 May for maintenance. • Silky Oak Country Club: Course will be closed on 18-19 April for Songkran. • St. Andrews 2000 Golf Club: Course will be closed on 18-19 April for Songkran Phuket • Laguna Golf Phuket: Course will be closed during 4-8 March for the PGA Tour China Series and during 13-19 May for the Singha Laguna Phuket Open. • Red Mountain Golf Club: Course will be closed on 20 March for a tournament. Kanchanaburi • Grand Prix Golf Club: Course will be closed during 1-3 & 7-10 March for tournaments. • Laguna Golf Lang Co: Course will be holding the 13th Faldo Series Asia Grand Final during 17-22 March. Course will be doing greens aeration during 8-17 (front nine) & 15-27 (back • Montgomerie Links Vietnam: Course will be closed on 30 March for the Mercedes Qualifier Tournament. Coring greens will be taking place in May.

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Yangon Golf Club, Yangon, Myanmar

**W** Vietnam Danang

**Dalat** • The Dalat at 1200 Country Club: Course will be closed during 2-10 February for Chinese New Year. Hai Phong / Halong Bay

• BRG Ruby Tree Golf Resort: There will be no night-golf during 4-8 February.

Hanoi

February.

Chinese New Year.

for tournaments.

Kota Kinabalu

Siem Reap

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• Chi Linh Star Golf & Country Club: Course will be closed in the afternoon of 26 February for a tournament. • Tam Dao Golf Resort: Course will be closed during 4-6 February for Chinese New Year. Ho Chi Minh City • Long Thanh Golf Club: Course will be holding the Volvo World Golf Challenge on 19

• Vietnam Golf Club: Course will be closed on 18 February and 25 March. Indonesia Bali

• Bali National Golf Club: Course will be closed in the afternoons of 15-16 March for a

• Handara Golf & Resort: Course will be closed on 10 February, 2 March, 20 April & 30 June

• The Bluffs Ho Tram Strip: Course will be undergoing coring green during 25-28 March.

• Song Be Golf Resort: Course will be closed from afternoon of 4 till morning of 6 February for

• Nirwana Bali Golf Club: Course will be closed until 31 July 2020 for major renovation. Malaysia **Kuala Lumpur** 

• New Kuta Golf: Course will be holding the 4th Bali Senior Open during 2-3 April..

• TPC KL, East Course: Course will be closed in the morning of 6 February for the Monthly Medal Tournament and on 17 February for the TPCL Junior Tournament. • TPC KL, West Course: Course will be closed on 23 & 24 February for the Interclub Match. Johor Bahru • Horizon Hills Golf & Country Club: Course will be closed in the afternoon of 8 February for

a tournament. • Tanjong Puteri Golf Resort, Plantation Course: Course will be undergoing maintenance on 18 & 25 February. Langkawi • The Els Club Teluk Datai: Course will be undergoing renovation during 11-15 February.

Penang • Bukit Jawi Golf Resort: Course will be closed on 19 (morning) and 27 (afternoon) January for tournaments.

maintenance on 11 & 25 February. Course will be closed on 16 & 23 February for tournaments. Cambodia

• Siem Reap Booyoung Country Club: Course will be closed on 5 April for a tournament.

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• Sutera Harbour Golf & Country Club: Course will be undergoing green aeration

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Golf Coast Vietnam ]

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