



Akorn

AKORN DESTINATION MANAGEMENT



INSPIRE

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## Waterfalls and Wonders in Southern Laos

Plummeting an impressive 120 meters (394 feet) into a jungle-covered ravine, the twin falls of Tad Fane are Laos' tallest waterfalls, standing even taller than New York's Statue of Liberty. Located in the Bolaven Plateau, just a short drive from the town of Pakse and a one-hour flight from Luang Prabang, this area offers some of our favorite walking trails. Discover majestic waterfalls surrounded by native flora and wildlife and get to know the local coffee-growing industry.



## Vietnam's Imperial Martial Arts

Breaking through eight layers of cement tiles with one forceful strike of the hand, this martial arts expert in Hue, Vietnam demonstrates an almost-lost technique that was inherited from the mandarins of Vietnam's former imperial dynasty. Vo Kinh Van An is a 200-year-old form of combat that was used to defend the nation. We offer access to the martial arts school that is helping to keep this tradition alive where you can watch a demonstration and try out some of the moves yourself.



## Inspiring Myanmar Traditions

From intricate gold jewelry to colorful ethnic textiles and handmade woodcarvings, Myanmar is the center of many original and traditional crafts. Helping to protect the nation's cultural fabric and preserve these rich cultural practices, Turquoise Mountain is a social enterprise that empowers new generations of artisans. We love spending time at their Yangon workshop to admire unique pieces made by people like Ma Su, a skilled weaver who favors soft, natural colors and patterns she learned from her mother and grandmother.



## Lost Temple Breakfast, Cambodia

This is one of Cambodia's best-kept secrets – a magnificent temple that rivals Angkor Wat in both size and grandeur but is far less-visited. Tucked away in the country's remote north-western plains, Banteay Chhmar is an impressive 12th-century structure covered with intricate bas-reliefs and protected by a water-filled moat. Start early for a private helicopter flight over the Cambodian countryside and indulge in a memorable breakfast amid the enchanting ruins.



## Bangkok's Underground Art World

Edgy, raw and provocative, Bangkok's contemporary art scene breaks boundaries with artists from all walks of life exploring new mediums and themes. Spend an unconventional day with an Akorn Insider and Bangkok art specialist who connects you with up-and-coming visionaries and changemakers, gives you access to a private collection and hosts an exclusive afternoon tea at a gallery, sharing insights into the city, its people and its politics.



INSPIRE | STAYS



Opening February 2020

## FOUR SEASONS HOTEL BANGKOK AT CHAO PHRAYA | Bangkok, Thailand

Making its grand re-entry into Bangkok with a stunning new riverside location, Four Seasons Hotel Bangkok at Chao Phraya River is an oasis of calm in the heart of the city. Designed by luxe architect Jean-Michel Gathy, the property comes complete with its own galleries, boutiques, restaurants and cafés, set around cascading buildings and open terraces.

**Why we love it:** With a maze of water features, vast courtyards and an abundance of natural light, the hotel delivers a relaxed, resort-style atmosphere in the middle of a busy urban metropolis. This is the perfect city hideaway with sweeping river views from the infinity pool and Thai healing treatments at the spa.

## SATRI HOUSE | Luang Prabang, Laos

Built in 1904, Satri House was the childhood home of Prince Souphanouvong and his family. Styled with handcrafted furniture, wood-beamed ceilings and handpicked Lao art on its walls, the boutique property is loaded with colonial Indochine charm and character. An intimate expression of Lao heritage, the property is a loving tribute to a bygone era.

**Why we love it:** It's not every day you have a chance to sleep in a UNESCO World Heritage home. The spacious suites feature large four-poster beds and oversized balconies, creating a sense of home that is both cozy and grand at the same time. Outdoors, the lily ponds, gardens and two swimming pools are perfect for a moment of relaxation.



## MAI CHAU ECOLODGE | Vietnam

Surrounded by lush mountains in a peaceful valley in rural northern Vietnam, Mai Chau Ecolodge is a charming countryside retreat with a collection of rustic wooden bungalows built in tribal village style. Nestled among Vietnam's ethnic communities, the lodge is a scenic three-hour drive from Hanoi and offers a unique window into another way of life.

**Why we love it:** Meandering through rice fields, trekking to nearby villages discovering local agriculture - this is one of the most intimate experiences of ethnic life in Vietnam. The rhythm of local life here is engaging and you also have a chance to give back through Akorn's philanthropy project, providing access to clean water to local schools.







“Live with no excuses  
and travel with no regrets”

- Oscar Wilde





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Start planning your next inspirational journey to Southeast Asia!



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Cover photo: Gold stencil mural at Wat Xiengthong in Luang Prabang, Laos

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**INSPIRE October 2019**

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