




Akorn

Akorn Destination Management



INSPIRE

June 2021



## On the Steps of Borobudur: Vesak Day in Indonesia

On the full moon of the fourth lunar month, the skies over Indonesia's Borobudur light up with colorful lanterns and Buddhist flags. Known as Vesak or Waisak, this festival marks the birth and enlightenment of Buddha and thousands of monks make their way each year to take part in the celebrations here, at the largest Buddhist monument in the world. Experience the festive atmosphere at Amanjiwo, located nearby, where a spiritual walk with monks and special festive menu are prepared exclusively for guests. Vesak Day is celebrated in Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar and Indonesia on 26 May 2021 and 16 May 2022.



## Lakeside Adventures in Southern Thailand

Look out for wild elephants or forest monkeys on the shores of Cheow Lan Lake in southern Thailand. Just a few hours north of Phuket and Krabi, this stunning and often overlooked freshwater lake in the Khao Sok National Park is one of Thailand's best kept secrets. Spend your days cruising around the lake by boat, kayaking, or exploring limestone cliffs, caves and rainforests. Then experience peaceful nights at 500 Rai Floating Resort, our favorite floating raft house accommodation with bungalows directly on the water and endless lakeside views.



## Fit for a King: Royal Cambodian Cuisine

For a chance to dine like royalty, make plans to visit Raffles Hotel Le Royale Phnom Penh, Cambodia. With strong ties to the nation's royal family spanning its 90-year history, the hotel is the only place permitted to serve authentic Khmer royal cuisine using recipes that were gifted by Royal Decree. Taste the light yet complex flavors of Kandal elephant fish, Battambang chicken curry or Mekong lobster in young coconut shell prepared by specially-trained chefs who ensure the continuation of this cultural legacy.



## Gardens and Communities of Bangkok

This old neighborhood of Bangkok, Thailand, is a secret treasure filled with colorful murals, old merchant's houses and pretty gardens. Join us on one of our favorite morning walks to meet sellers of orchids and marigold blossoms at the flower market and explore a typical Thai neighborhood with a Confucian shrine, a community garden and Thai iced tea at a trendy little café on the Chao Phraya River.



## Scooting Around Hoi An

Hop on the back of a vintage scooter for a day of exploring the countryside surrounding the ancient town of Hoi An, on Vietnam's central coast. Drive through rice fields and farming communities that are off the beaten path. Along the way, stop for a Vietnamese coffee at an artisanal coffee shop and visit the home of a family who make the best *banh dap* (rice crackers) in the village. You can even try making one yourself!

# INSPIRE | STAYS



## CAPE FAHN | Koh Samui, Thailand

Set on its own small island just off the coast of Koh Samui, Cape Fahn is a boutique hideaway surrounded by stunning tropical scenery and endless ocean vistas. The villas are chic and contemporary with wooden furnishings, private plunge pools and floor-to-ceiling windows that capture glorious views of the Gulf of Thailand.

**Why we love it:** Named as one of Departures Magazine's World's Best Private Island Resorts for a Secluded Getaway in 2020, the hotel is perfect for a quiet retreat on a private island, away from the rest of the world. Start the day with an Instagram-worthy floating breakfast, end with a leisurely sunset cruise and enjoy decadent afternoon teas, spa treatments and beach picnics in between.

## MIA SAIGON | Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

A boutique urban sanctuary on the Saigon River, Mia Saigon is a haven of tranquility in Ho Chi Minh City, inspired by French colonial design. Private butlers are on hand to ensure a smooth and pleasant stay. Each room features private balconies overlooking the river and striking patterns that reflect different jewels such as citrine, emerald or ruby.

**Why we love it:** This hotel has a unique sense of character with the owner's private collection of art and antiques on every floor, including propaganda posters, stamps and magazine covers. The riverside location takes you away from the hustle and bustle while boat transfers offer a convenient way of getting around the city. The outdoor swimming pool is the perfect setting for sunsets and river views.



## FOUR SEASONS RESORT BALI AT JIMBARAN BAY | Bali, Indonesia

Nestled on a beautiful stretch of sand in a calm and quiet bay, Four Seasons Resort Bali at Jimbaran Bay is an idyllic wellness retreat that combines the spiritual essence of Bali with incredible ocean view living. The breezy villas reflect local Balinese architecture with thatched-roof pavilions featuring lush gardens, private pools and spacious indoor and outdoor living spaces decorated with ikat traditional fabrics.

**Why we love it:** Boasting Bali's first "Surround Sound Spa Suite," the hotel offers sophisticated spa treatments with inspired wellness rituals, including a color healing therapy room aimed at uplifting your spirit with the energy of crystal singing bowls.



# FOIRE DE HANOI 1932



**河內市會**  
自西曆一千九百三十  
二年十一月二十七日  
至十二月十一日  
會所在河內商賣房

**du 27 Nov.**

**au 11 Décembre 1932 =**

Siège : Chambre de Commerce Hanoi

**=Hội-Chợ Hà Nội**

**tứ hai mươi bảy tháng một đến  
mười một tháng chạp năm 1932**

Hội Sở : Phòng Thương-Mại Hà Nội

This early 20th century poster is part of a private art collection at Mia Saigon, a boutique riverside hotel in Ho Chi Minh City

Cover photo: Floral offerings on Vesak Day in Southeast Asia. Lotus flowers represent the purity of mind and soul

OVER 30 YEARS  
OF LUXURY TRAVEL EXPERTISE IN  
SOUTHEAST ASIA



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