



Akorn

Akorn DESTINATION MANAGEMENT



INSPIRE

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INSPIRE | EXPLORE

Fabulous Fireworks in Bangkok, Thailand

If you're looking for lively countdown parties and amazing pyrotechnics, then Thailand's buzzing capital of Bangkok is the place to be. With most of the New Year's Eve action taking place along the Chao Phraya River, we recommend securing reservations early at one of our favorite riverside properties. **Mandarin Oriental Bangkok** is hosting a black-tie evening with a live band while **Capella Bangkok** is offering live music and a Michelin-star meal at Côte by Mauro Colagreco. **Four Seasons Hotel Bangkok at Chao Phraya** is serving up a buffet with seafood, Peking duck, Australian Wagyu tomahawk and **The Siam** is putting on a culinary market and four-course meal. Alternatively, head downtown to dine at the top of Bangkok with panoramic rooftop views at Ojo, the Mexican-themed restaurant at **The Standard, Bangkok Mahanakhon**.



A Restful Retreat in Southern Laos

Where natural forests meet small villages, waterfalls and coffee plantations, this quiet corner of southern Laos offers an idyllic escape for outdoors adventurers. Wander the lush wilderness of the Bolaven Plateau or head further south to explore a landscape of four thousand islands in the middle of the Mekong River. We recommend staying on the riverside at Residence Bassac or at La Folie Lodge where you can go boating and biking by day and return for scenic sunsets by night - ideal for casual and relaxed countdown celebrations.



A Vietnamese Festive Favorite

Any great celebration comes with even greater food traditions. In Vietnam, the festive season is a cultural mixed bag, where Vietnamese spring rolls and noodles are served alongside roast turkey and pudding. As a former French colony, it is not surprising that the Vietnamese spread often features French delicacies such as oysters and escargot, but nothing says "Celebration" in Vietnam more than a bûche de Noël, which you will find in many bakeries and restaurants this time of year - because who doesn't love a chocolate, cream-filled cake!

Soulful Celebrations in Indonesia

Welcome the New Year on a high and watch the first sunrise of 2023 from the peak of the Menoreh Hills, overlooking rice fields and farmland in Java, Indonesia. This magical moment is part of the week-long celebrations at Amanjiwo, an idyllic limestone sanctuary that lies just steps from the great Borobudur, the world's largest Buddhist temple complex. Take part in morning yoga sessions, learn traditional craft-making and cleanse your spirit with a Ruwatan purification ceremony followed by breakfast at the Progo River. On New Year's Eve, savor a seven-course Champagne dinner accompanied by colorful Javanese dance and musical performances leading up to the countdown at midnight.



Countdown by Candlelight in Cambodia

For New Year's Eve with a difference, arrange a private celebration for you and your loved ones on the grounds of an ancient Angkor temple. Whether you are celebrating as a couple, with extended family or groups of friends, this is the perfect way to mark the occasion! With our Akorn connections, you have special after-hours access to the archaeological site so you can ring in the New Year in our own way, with the candlelit Khmer temple as your backdrop!



RAYA HERITAGE
Chiang Mai, Thailand

Nestled on a quiet stretch of Chiang Mai's Ping River, Raya Heritage is a boutique property that embodies the spirit of Northern Thailand and the old Lanna kingdom. With 38 suites, including 11 with private pools, this resort is a tranquil haven that celebrates Thai artistry through handwoven textiles, wood carvings and rattan crafts.

Why we love it: Set around scenic gardens, this property creates a sense of home and comes with a riverside swimming pool that is ideal for relaxing or unwinding after a day of touring. We love the rustic restaurant which serves organic cuisine with a combination of northern Thai and international flavors.



VEDANA LAGOON
RESORT & SPA | Hue, Vietnam

Perched on the edge of a vast lagoon, Vedana Lagoon Resort & Spa is an idyllic retreat located on the road between the Central Vietnamese towns of Hoi An and Hue. The perfect spot for a wellness retreat, the resort offers villas and overwater bungalows that open up to lagoon views or private gardens.

Why we love it: The lagoon creates the perfect backdrop for healing treatments and massages, and we feel closer to nature in this idyllic place. A mindful yoga or tai chi session is a great way to start each day and we love spending time by the pool, relaxing under the shade of palm trees.



NEW OPENING

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INTERCONTINENTAL KHAO YAI
Khao Yai, Thailand

Recently opened in August 2022, InterContinental Khao Yai epitomizes everything we love about designer Bill Bensley's iconic and whimsical style. A three-hour drive from Bangkok, the property is inspired by the golden age of travel with suites housed in repurposed heritage train cars and interiors that reflect first-class carriages of yesteryear.

Why we love it: An excellent base for exploring Khao Yai National Park, the property overlooks seven lakes and offers farm-to-table gastronomy as well as spa experiences with an in-residence healer and fitness instructor.





In Thailand, people often visit temples on New Year's Eve to pray for a year of good luck and offer floral garlands and alms to the monks
Cover photo: New Year celebrations in Indonesia often feature colorful dances such as this traditional Pakarena "kipas" fan dance

OVER 30 YEARS
OF LUXURY TRAVEL EXPERTISE IN
SOUTHEAST ASIA



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