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Akorn DESTINATION MANAGEMENT



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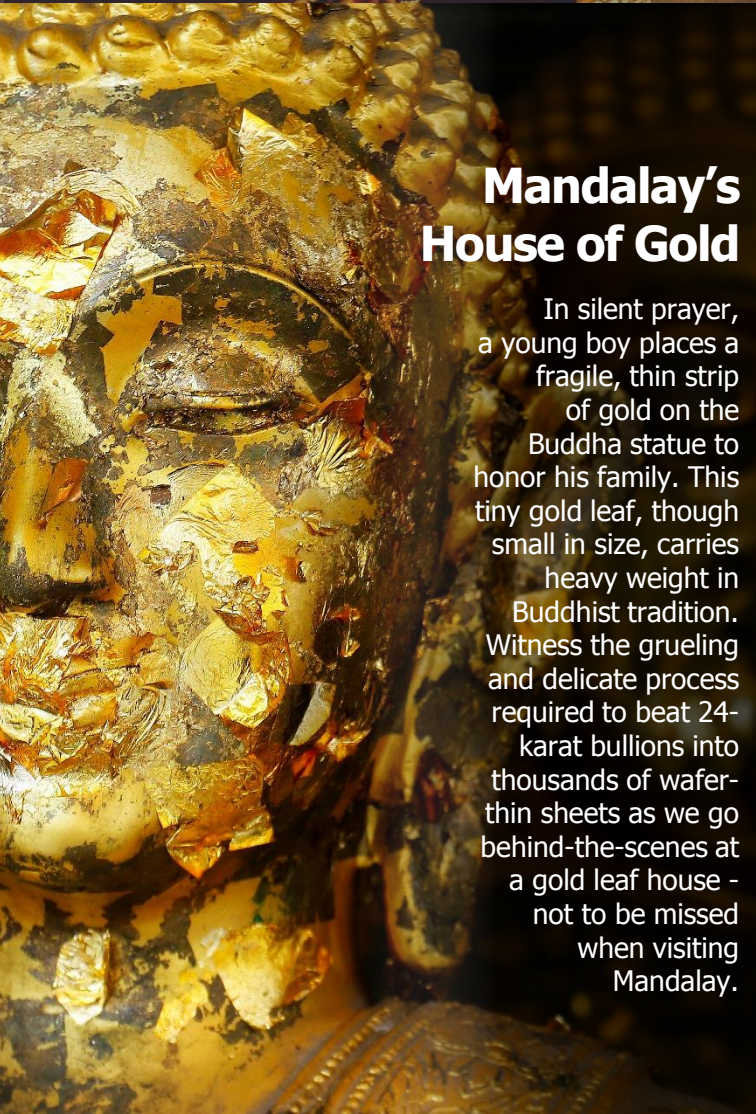
June 2019

INSPIRE CULTURE



The "Center of Cool" in Chiang Mai

Discover Chiang Mai's trendy Nimmanhaemin district where local designer fashion meets leather crafts, funky metal jewelers and more! Shop for custom bamboo furniture at Gerard Collection, browse bags and accessories by Thai designers at Greenies & Co., or chill out at one of the cool neighborhood cafés like Ristr8to which serves the best beans from northern Thailand.



Mandalay's House of Gold

In silent prayer, a young boy places a fragile, thin strip of gold on the Buddha statue to honor his family. This tiny gold leaf, though small in size, carries heavy weight in Buddhist tradition. Witness the grueling and delicate process required to beat 24-karat bullions into thousands of wafer-thin sheets as we go behind-the-scenes at a gold leaf house - not to be missed when visiting Mandalay.



Hiding Out in Vietnam

Walking into a wardrobe to find a wartime printing factory may sound like the plot of a James Bond movie, but with Akorn's insider knowledge, it is just another day in Ho Chi Minh City. Uncover the city's many secrets as we take you into typical neighborhood homes in unremarkable streets to find trapdoors leading to underground weapons bunkers and other covert landmarks of the Vietnam War.

A spiritual connection in Bali, Indonesia. The image shows a lush green rice paddy field with several tall palm trees. Two women are walking through the field, one carrying a basket of produce. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden glow.

A Spiritual Connection in Bali, Indonesia

Uplift your soul in Indonesia's center of spirituality - Bali. Amid endless rice paddies, we invite you to spend a morning with a spiritual healer who is also one of our favorite local artisans. Join the Hindu priest for a reflective walk learning about the healing properties of herbal medicines and the agricultural lifestyle of the village. Enjoy an exclusive lunch with the priest and a private viewing of his beautiful traditional Keliki art pieces.

Colors of the Mekong. The image shows a sunset over a wide river. The sun is a bright orange circle in the sky, casting a warm glow over the water and the silhouetted mountains in the background. A small boat is visible on the water in the foreground.

Colors of the Mekong

Take in serene views of deep orange, red, pink and purple hues while enjoying a glass of Champagne or local beer while floating on a traditional river boat along the Mekong River in Luang Prabang. Drift through endless scenes of verdant mountains and peaceful villages as the sun sets beyond the horizon, marking the end of another day in this sleepy, rural town.

INSPIRE | STAYS



L'ALYA | Ninh Van Bay, Vietnam

Framed by sapphire blue sea, endless golden sand and pristine natural forests, this charming all-pool villa retreat is just 15 minutes by speedboat from Nha Trang in central Vietnam. This stunning coastline now enjoys direct flights from Bangkok as well as Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City.

Why we love it:

Set on an isolated point surrounded by vegetation, this simple, yet elegant resort seems to exist in a world of its own. We loved exploring nearby nature trails and fishing villages by day and returning for laid-back evenings on the private, open-air terrace of our villa where a dedicated butler attended to our every need.

SOFITEL LEGEND METROPOLE HANOI | Hanoi, Vietnam

A slice of history, Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi is an iconic address where celebrities, diplomats and royalty meet. Built at the turn of the century, the hotel's Historical Wing offers a French colonial experience with teak wood and heritage furnishings while the Opera Wing delivers neo-classical style and comfort.

Why we love it:

High tea in the Parisian glass house was divine and we loved walking in the footsteps of former guests such as Charlie Chaplin. The property also holds a slice of wartime history with a hidden underground bomb shelter where Joan Baez and Jane Fonda once hid.



KAMALAYA | Koh Samui, Thailand

Centered around a monks' cave, Kamalaya is an immersive wellness retreat that offers holistic health and healing experiences that focus on the mind, body and soul. The accommodation is modest, yet extremely calming with lots of natural light and forest or ocean views.

Why we love it:

If you are seeking a place to relax and recharge, this is it! The resident yoga, fitness and spiritual instructors kept us inspired daily with motivational programs individually tailored to our needs. More than a holiday, this resort offers a complete life makeover - the perfect beginning or end to a Southeast Asia journey.

“So come with me, where dreams
are born, and time is never planned.”

- J.M. Barrie, author of Peter Pan

Walking on Lombok's
pink sand beach in Indonesia



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Start planning your next inspirational journey to Southeast Asia!



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Cover photo: Lady with umbrella at U Bein bridge near Mandalay, Myanmar

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