



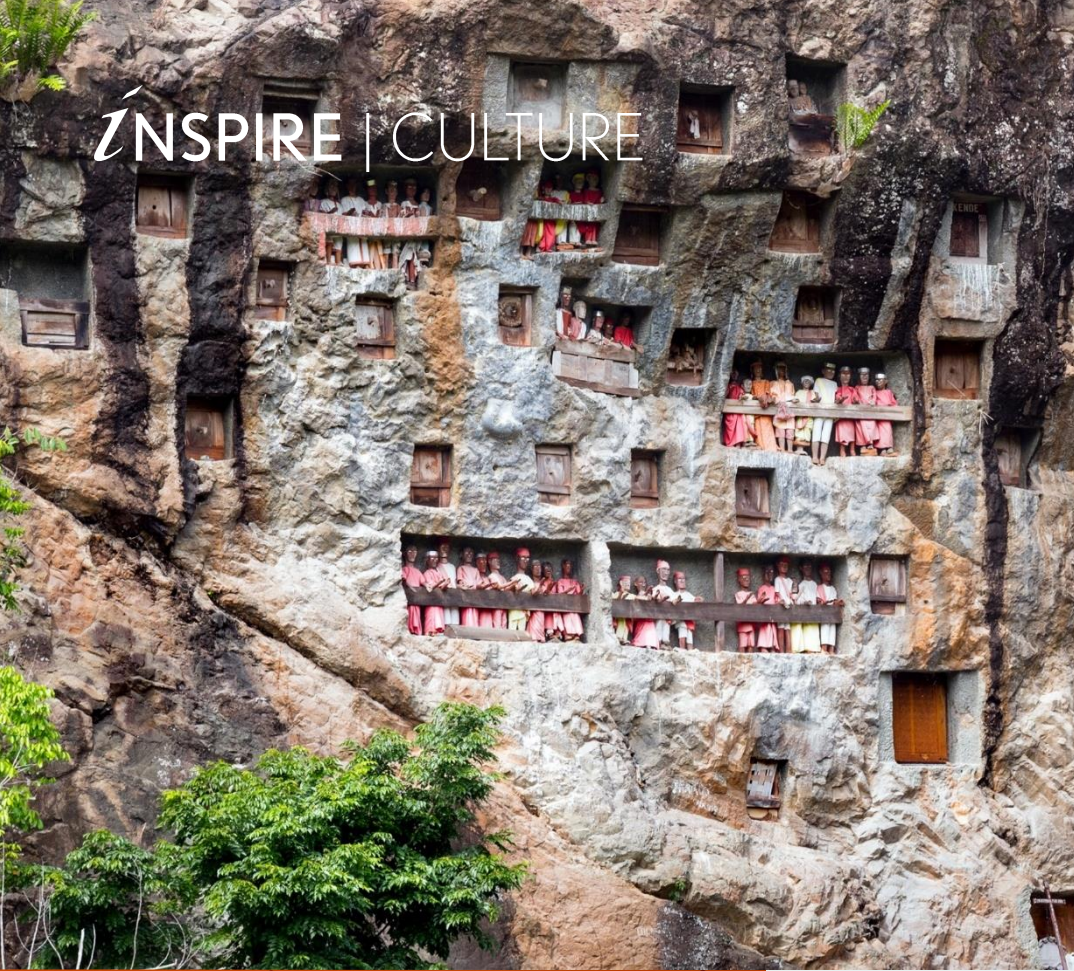
Akorn

Akorn Destination Management



INSPIRE

July 2019



The Real Walking Dead in Indonesia

Venture into the picturesque Toraja highlands of Indonesia to experience a world completely unlike our own. Seemingly lost in time, the villagers carry out elaborate and unusual burial rituals that are seen in very few places in the world. Life-like wooden statues called "tau tau" keep watch over the dead who are interred in hanging graves scattered across the cliff face. Take a closer look at this unusual practice on your next Akorn journey and learn more about life - and death in this remote corner of the world.

Out of the Shadows, Cambodia

The steady beating of barrel drums followed by the mesmerizing tones of the traditional "pin peat" orchestra fill the air as the shadow puppets take to the stage, retelling the great tales of Khmer gods and heroes as they dance across a backlit bamboo screen. Cambodian shadow theater, or "sbek thom," was around at least 500 years before Angkor Wat and has been inscribed as a UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage. Now you can experience this unique art in true Akorn style with a private performance in Siem Reap.

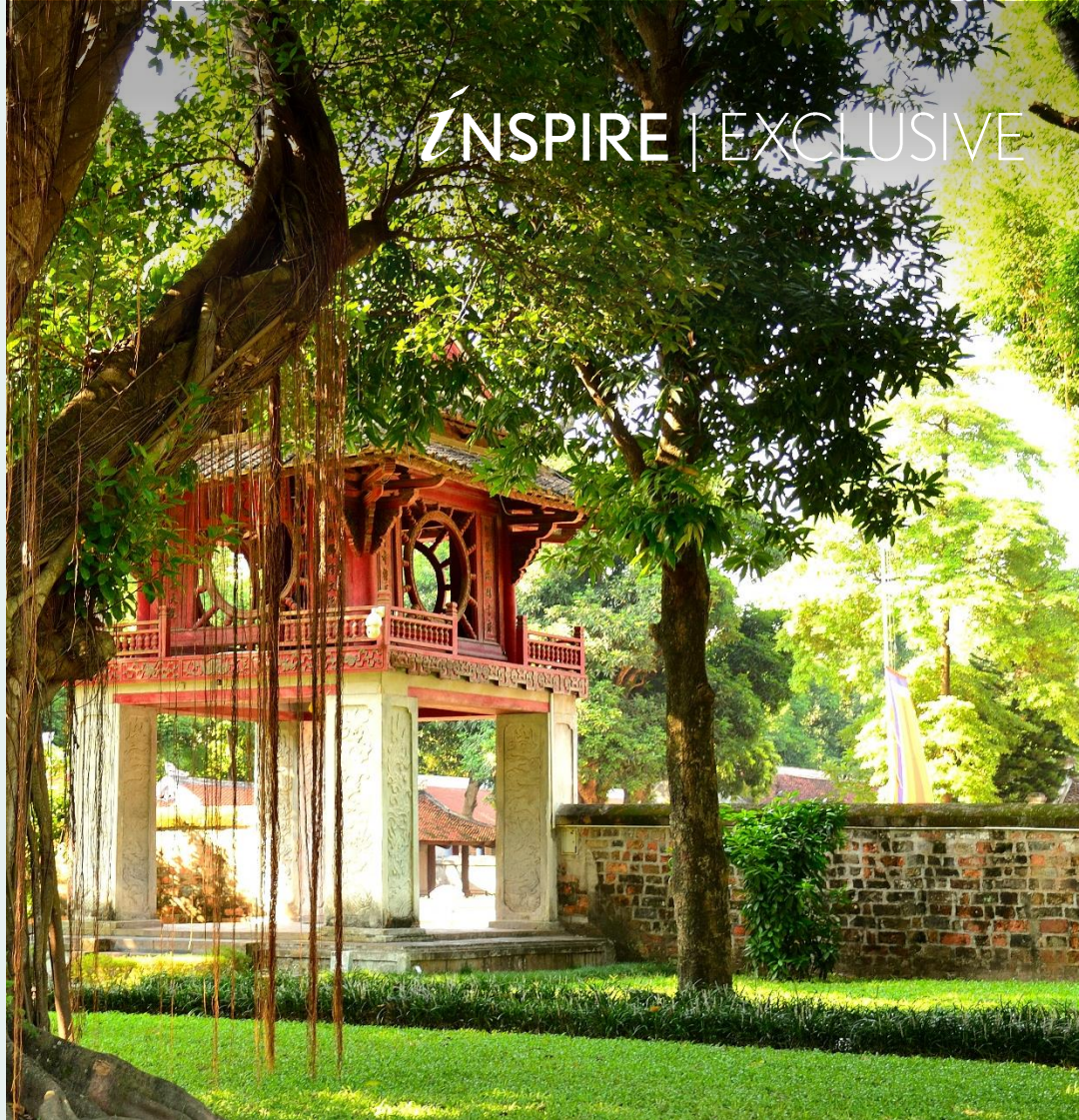


Laos' Natural Oasis

Hike through mist-covered hills, soak in curative natural hot springs and discover healthy farm-to-table eating on the edge of the peaceful Song River. Just over three hours' drive from Luang Prabang, it is easy to see why travelers are rediscovering the wonders of Vang Vieng in central Laos. Surrounded by rice paddies, small villages and blue lagoons, the sleepy haven is perfect for active outdoor adventures, eco-friendly getaways or simply enjoying nature's great gifts.

Inside Hanoi's Imperial University

Uncover seven centuries of knowledge at the Temple of Literature in Hanoi, Vietnam, with an Akorn Insider and scholar of Vietnamese history and Confucianism. Learn the hidden meaning behind the phoenix and dragon motifs while exploring the five stately courtyards that reflect the five Confucian elements of fire, water, metal, wood and earth in this imperial university where Vietnam's kings and nobility were educated for almost 700 years.



Rediscover Art in Myanmar

Unleash your creativity in Myanmar with artist Khin Zaw Latt. See Myanmar through the eyes of an artist and delve into the nation's creative scene, learning about how things have changed since the days of political censorship. Enjoy a personal tour of the painter's gallery to admire his vivid images of Buddha faces, portraits and everyday scenes.



INSPIRE | STAYS



SONG SAA PRIVATE ISLAND Cambodia

A carefree paradise in the heart of the Koh Rong archipelago, Song Saa Private Island is an intimate, sustainable retreat surrounded by vibrant coral reefs. Ideal for wellness or detox, the resort embraces the natural beauty of the island with lavish overwater villas and ocean or jungle view rooms that come complete with large, open-plan living and private pools.

Why we love it: Giving back to local wildlife projects, this exclusive hideaway offers a guilt-free escape where the trappings of modern life are replaced with incredible snorkeling and kayaking adventures in open seas, soothing Khmer massages and uplifting Buddhist blessing rituals.

ANANTARA MAI KHAO PHUKET VILLAS | Phuket, Thailand

Nestled on the northern shores of the island, just 15 minutes from the airport, Anantara Mai Khao Phuket offers stylish southern Thai village-style accommodation with sumptuous pool villas set around a tranquil lagoon framed by a quiet stretch of sand and a protected national park.

Why we love it: The torch-lit Tree House was one of our favorite dining experiences, offering gourmet meals atop an ancient banyan tree. We recommend starting the day with morning yoga on the beach followed by a heart-pumping Muay Thai boxing session, a rejuvenating spa treatment or a private Andaman Sea cruise.



KATAMAMA | Bali, Indonesia

Showcasing hand-made art and textiles by Indonesian craftsmen in every suite, Katamama offers a luxury boutique experience that combines chic contemporary style with traditional red brick design, custom-made furniture and hand-finished details. A 40-minute drive from Ngurah Rai airport, the property is just steps from the buzzing beachfront of Bali's trendy Seminyak district.

Why we love it: Just around the corner from Bali's Potato Head beach club's restaurants, bars, dance parties and art exhibits, the property is a sanctuary of calm. We loved catching up on some R&R at the pool beneath the shade of asam trees and engaging in Balinese healing traditions at the spa.



“Once the travel bug bites there is no known antidote, and I know that I shall be happily infected until the end of my life.”

- Sir Michael Edward Palin, actor and television presenter





Akorn DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

Start planning your next inspirational journey to Southeast Asia!



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Cover photo: Mangosteens, the "Queen of Fruits" are in season in Southeast Asia

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