

# BANYAN TREE

HOTELS & RESORTS

## PRESS RELEASE

### EL BULLI-TRAINED CHEF ALFONSO DE LA DEHESA HELMS F&B AT BANYAN TREE PHUKET



**Phuket, Thailand, July 2015** – [Banyan Tree Phuket](#) is thrilled to announce the arrival of Alfonso de la Dehesa as its new Executive Chef. Coming to Thailand from the Banyan Tree resort in Cabo Marqués, Mexico, Alfonso brings with him a highly-developed focus on modern and international cuisine, honed over decades of experience at some of the world's most distinguished restaurants.

Originally from Spain, Alfonso soon earned a reputation for exceptional quality in his approach to culinary innovation and presentation. His considerable talents found their expression at ARZAK, a 3-star Michelin restaurant in Spain – and then again at El Bulli, another 3-star Michelin restaurant, considered by many to be the best in the world.

Alfonso next became Chef de Cuisine at Spain's most successful catering company, Catering Medens. He remained at that position with his subsequent appointment at Jumeirah – the first of several 5-star hotels he has worked for in the United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, Mexico and now Phuket, Thailand.

After 4 years as the Executive Chef at the Banyan Tree Cabo Marqués Resort, Alfonso has now joined Banyan Tree Phuket, and will oversee its celebrated selection of fine dining experiences.

Among the featured restaurants at Banyan Tree Phuket is the al fresco restaurant [Tamarind](#), which offers Phuket's finest authentic Japanese cuisine. For those in the mood for lighter fare, the casual Western-themed [Banyan Café](#), overlooking the finely-groomed lawns of the Laguna Phuket Golf Club is a good choice.

[Saffron](#) is Banyan Tree's signature restaurant, offering an authentic and traditional Thai dining experience in a luxurious setting. While [Watercourt](#) offers exquisite international flavours, featuring an excellent selection of seafood overlooking the lagoon. One of Alfonso's signature dish will be a Phuket Lobster Salad with Remulade Vinagrete. Both Saffron and Watercourt will re-open on November 1, 2015, with an enhanced look and new recipes.

Celebrate in style by staying in one of the Banyan Tree's stunningly attractive villas, and treat your palate with the most memorable and refined cuisine Phuket has to offer.

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## About Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts

The Banyan Tree Group is a leading international operator and developer of premium resorts, hotels, residences and spas, with a collection of award-winning brands. **Banyan Tree** offers a Sanctuary to rejuvenate the mind, body and soul in awe-inspiring locations around the globe. Rediscover the romance of travel as you journey to iconic destinations where authentic, memorable experiences await. **Angsana** brings the adventure back into travel whatever your age or reason to visit. Intertwining local chic and a vibrant fun-filled atmosphere, Angsana offers exotic destination playgrounds across the world. **Cassia** is a bold new proposition in the serviced apartment sector, offering stylish, cutting edge hotel residences for holidays and business travel. It offers incredible choice for families, friends and couples.

**To date, the Banyan Tree Group manages and/or has ownership interests in over 37 hotels and resorts, more than 70 spas, 80 retail galleries; as well as three golf courses.**

[www.banyantree.com](http://www.banyantree.com)

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