



# UNDER THE banyan TREE

ISSUE 18 >> JANUARY-JUNE 2017



3

FOREWORD

4

HIGHLIGHTS

8

FOOTPRINTS

18

SOUL FOOD

26

MUSE

30

CRAFT

40

SUSTAINABILITY

44

DIRECTORY

“THE ADVENTUROUS SPIRIT THAT WE BRING WITH US WHEN WE TRAVEL, IS AN INCREDIBLE ROMANTIC WAY TO SEE THE WORLD.”

Sustainable planning and a responsible management are two key ingredients that are imperative for the tourism industry to survive as a whole. Our journey started 22 years ago in Phuket, Thailand, where we transformed an abandoned tin mine into an environmentally sensitive integrated resort. Our DNA will always be to do well and do good. It is with this mindset that we have created our collection of brands – Banyan Tree, Angsana, Cassia, and Dhawa.

In a world that is facing global warming and other threats, we need to step up in our effort to protect the environment. As our hotels and resorts are located in destinations surrounded by mountains, rivers, and nature, doing this well can bring about a greener environment, and a more vibrant marine life creating memorable experiences for our guests. We invite you to help and support our sustainability efforts, including the global crisis of coral bleaching.

As we head into 2017, we venture into new regions – Cuba, Turkey, and Malaysia – and our expansion continues to remain strong in our key markets. In China, we are opening properties in Jiuzhaigou, Xishuangbanna, Yangcheng Lake, Anji, and Zhuhai Dalang Bay. Each location will inspire and awe with their rich traditions and heritage.

With all these exciting developments rapidly coming up, retaining that all important sense of place that we pride ourselves on continues to be paramount.

Flip through the pages as we take you on a journey to three of our upcoming resorts, a food trail, a look behind-the-scenes of artisans and craftsmanship, and many more, all of which would not be possible without your support.

We hope to continue to create more memorable destinations that you can remember for life.



*Ho KwonPing*  
Mr Ho KwonPing  
Executive Chairman

## HIGHLIGHTS

*From festivities to events all across the globe, flip through these highlights specially handpicked for you.*

### THE BPM FESTIVAL

*6 - 15 January*

An annual 10 day and night electronic music festival, the BPM Festival, held in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico, is a global gathering of DJs, producers, revelers and industry professionals that has become a must for any music lover with a discerning taste for quality electronic dance music with miles of soft white sand beaches and sparkling turquoise waters on the Mayan Riviera. This is a dance music lover's tropical paradise.

*Banyan Tree Mayakoba*

## JANUARY - JUNE



### HOI AN FULL MOON FESTIVAL

*11 January*

Love Central Vietnam's beautiful multi-coloured lanterns and romantic atmosphere? The experience becomes intensified during Hoi An's full moon festival which sees the old town shut off electricity at night. The streets transform into magical seas of flickering candles and lighted stalls. For the locals, the full moon is also a time to honour their ancestors. Offerings of fruits, flowers and incense papers are made outside homes and businesses. A boat cruise along the river allows one to take in the full glow of the festival.

*Banyan Tree Lang Cô, Central Vietnam, Angsana Lang Cô, Central Vietnam*

### BALISPIRIT FESTIVAL

*19 - 26 March*

Yoga, dance and music. Running from day to night, events at this festival includes interactive workshop, children's activity zone, live performances and more! The BaliSpirit Festival illustrates the Balinese concept of living in harmony with one's spirit, social and natural environment.

*Banyan Tree Ungasan, Bali*



## SONGKRAN WATER FESTIVAL

13 - 15 April

Growing in popularity year after year, the Thai New Year celebration, also known as the Songkran Water Festival, is a boisterous affair. Traditionally, Thai people sprinkle water over each other as a symbol of good fortune and form of respect to Buddha. Today, the custom has been transformed into a water party where locals and even tourists are armed with water guns and even pails! If you're planning to join this fun festival, bring extra clothes and prepare to get soaked.

*Banyan Tree Bangkok, Banyan Tree Phuket, Banyan Tree Samui, Banyan Tree Spa Sanctuary Phuket, DoublePool Villas by Banyan Tree, Angsana Laguna Phuket, Angsana Villas Resort Phuket, Cassia Phuket*



## CARNAVAL INTERNATIONAL DE VICTORIA

April

Get ready for three full days of extravaganza with a procession of colourful floats from around the world as well as a raft of other dedicated activities! The annual event brings representatives from the world's best carnivals to celebrate alongside cultural groups from the community of nations. If there's one carnival in the world you have to attend, this is it!

*Banyan Tree Seychelles*



## CHINESE GRAND PRIX

April

Race to book tickets for the popular Formula One World Championship in Shanghai. This event had the most expensive circuit facility when it was completed in 2004. The Shanghai International Circuit features a challenging mix of corners that tests drivers and vehicles to the limit. Typically held in spring, the unpredictable weather only adds to the excitement. The 5.4 km track is shaped like the Chinese character 'shang', which means 'above'. It is definitely a spectacular motorsport experience for all spectators.

*Banyan Tree Shanghai On The Bund*



## DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL, XIXI WETLAND PARK

30 May

Held annually at the XiXi National Wetland Park, the lively affair brings together thousands of people who come to watch the competition and celebrate it. While the festival symbolises the qualities of bravery and adamancy of the local XiXi people, it also represents their wish to pursue a better life. Apart from the fantastic dragon boat race, enjoy traditional Chinese opera, Wushu performances, a wonderful dragon lantern dance, and lion dance on the ancient stage!

*Banyan Tree Hangzhou, Angsana Hangzhou, China*



## ULTRA KOREA MUSIC FESTIVAL

June

Need we say more? The Ultra Korea Music Festival is a popular electronic dance music festival in Seoul. Fans of K-pop can check out other musicians from the Korean electronic music scene and catch sets from their favourite international DJs and artists! You will need your smart phone or camera on standby to capture the amazing fireworks and light show. Join the jam and stay for the visual spectaculars!

*Banyan Tree Club and Spa Seoul, Korea*





MOROCCAN ROMANCE  
IN TAMOUDA BAY

*Banyan Tree Tamouda Bay, Morocco*

From classic films like *Alexander The Great* and *Lawrence of Arabia*, to recent movies like *Sex and The City 2*, directors have long flirted with capturing Morocco's allure. It is easy to see why. From lounging on the Legzira Beach to a tour of the Sahara Desert's sand dunes, there is never a dull moment.



This North African nation, bordering the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea, is distinguished by its cultural influences – Berber, Arabian and European. This eclectic mix is apparent at the bustling outdoor markets where you can enjoy sweet Moroccan cigars and couscous, the national dish, with meat and spices. When night falls, feel the music and join in the shikat or Arabic belly dance.

Another must-do is a visit to Tetouan town or medina, home to a UNESCO World Heritage site where traditional trade like carpet weaving still thrives and whose architecture dates as far back as the 8th century.

20 minutes' drive from Tetouan town is Banyan Tree's latest offering in Tamouda Bay, tucked at the northern tip of Morocco. Its gleaming white-coated exterior resembling that of a riad, or Moroccan house, catches the eyes from a distance.

Inside, distinctive architectural features like tall archways, verdant gardens and fountains combine tradition and elegance. Its décor is tinged with Moroccan-style artefacts. The interior is awash in earthy tones that remind of the romance of the desert.

Opened in September 2016 this sprawling property is also Banyan Tree's first venture into the Mediterranean and Africa. It has 92 villas, with an option for either a direct beach access or a private garden and pool. Each guarantees a jaw-dropping sea view.

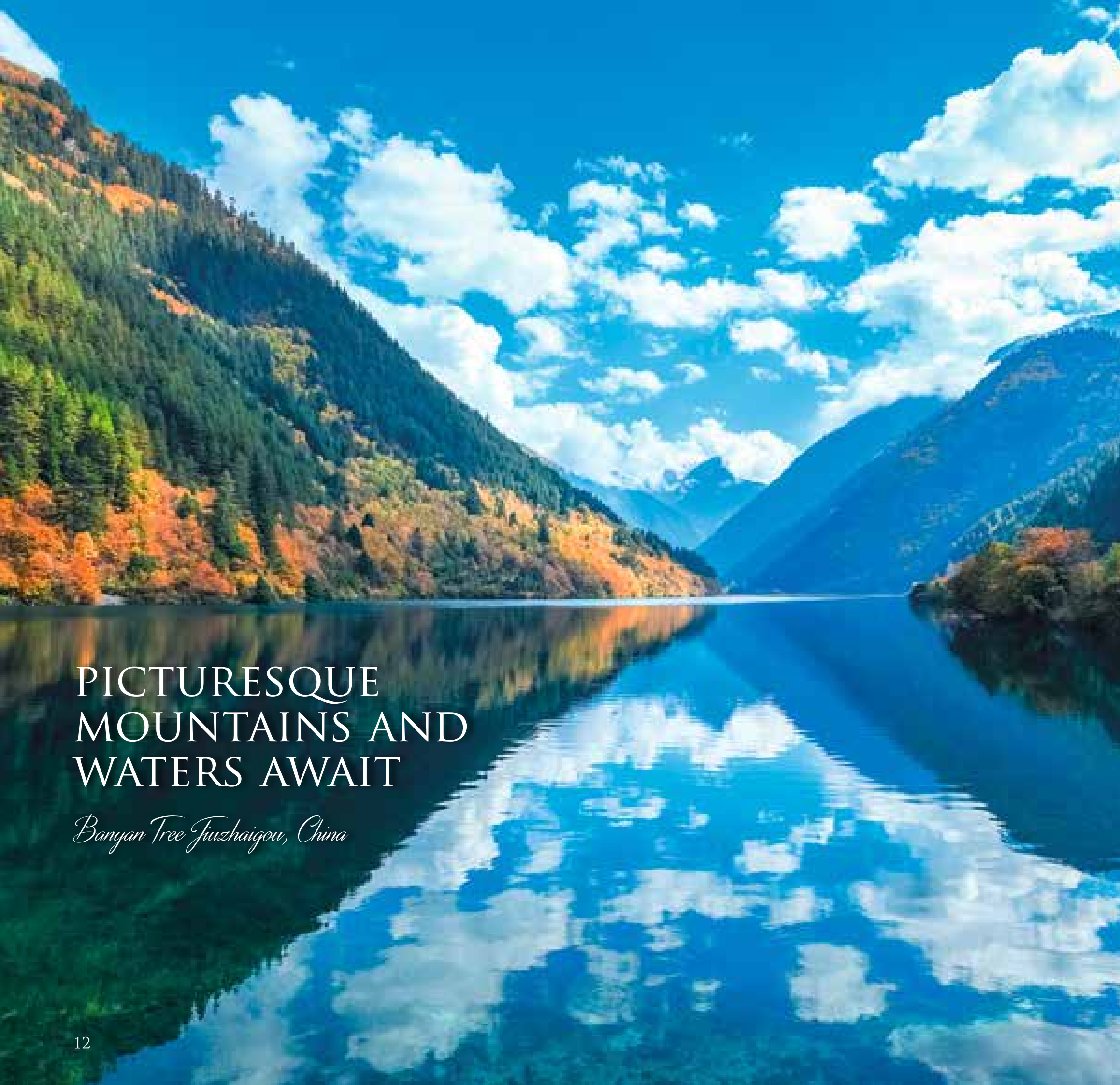
Those who want a few rounds of golf can head to the Cabo Negro Royal Golf Club in Tetouan and the Tangier Royal Golf Club at the nearby Rif Mountain foothills. The adventurous can attempt mountain hikes or wander to Cabo Negro, famous for its beaches and horse-riding. For sea activities, Tamouda Bay offers scuba diving and whale-watching.

Dreamy pampering awaits at the in-house award-winning Banyan Tree Spa of six deluxe treatment rooms, two royal treatment rooms, a Hydro spa and a vitality pool. Getting a good scrub at a hammam is a wonderful, eye-opening cultural practice. Book a hammam here for the quintessential Moroccan experience.

*Offer: Enjoy one complimentary night for every 3-night stay at Banyan Tree Tamouda Bay. Bookings are open from now until 31 March 2017, valid for stays until 31 March 2017.*

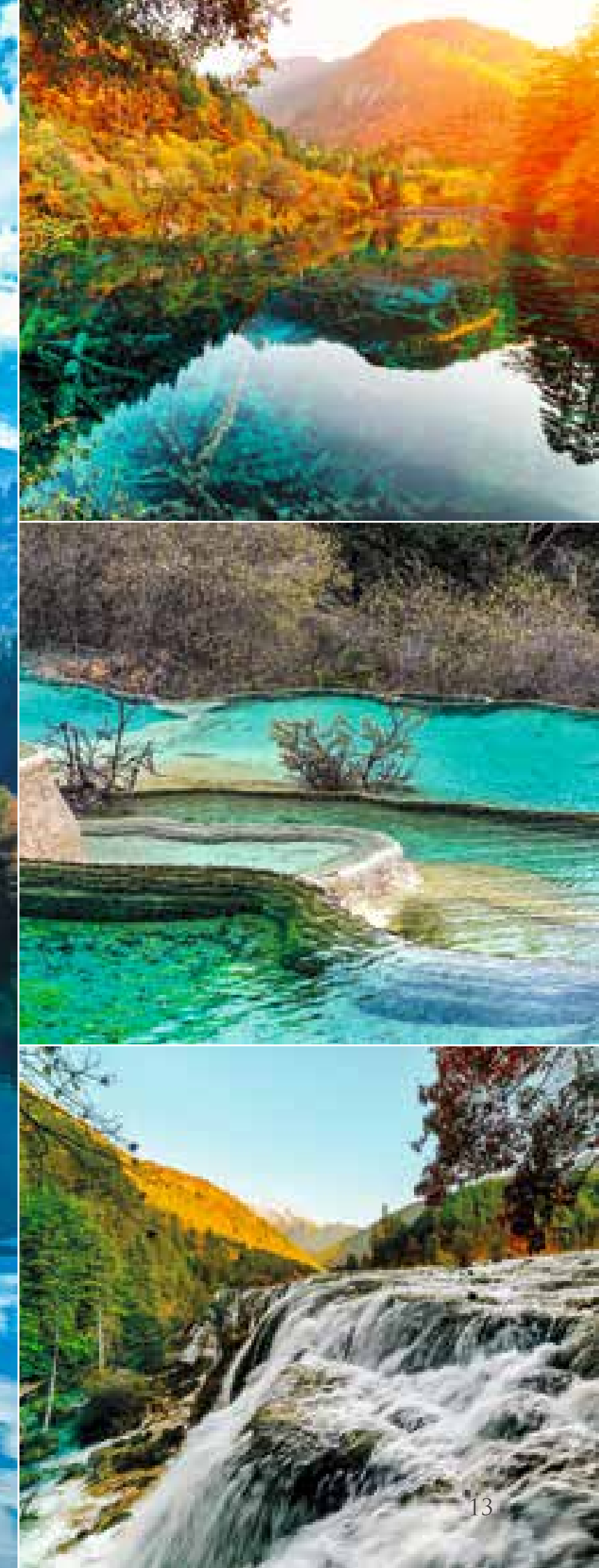






PICTURESQUE  
MOUNTAINS AND  
WATERS AWAIT

*Banyan Tree Jiuzhaigou, China*



Entering the resort is truly like entering another world. Breathe in fresh air as you gaze down on an unspoilt view of the lush mountain landscape. Rest in one of the rooms which reflects the rich oriental classical styles designed with a clean, modern feel. Think floors with dark wood, beautiful embroidered carpets and whimsical landscape portraits. This resort, its unsurpassed service, modern oriental architecture and easy access to the awe-inspiring valleys, is the answer to your quest for an exclusive getaway.



Famous for its bluer-than-blue lakes that change shades with the four seasons, Jiuzhaigou has been hailed as one of China's star attractions. Located at the Sichuan province, Jiuzhaigou means "nine-village valley", inspired by the nine Tibetan villages lining the valley.

This World Heritage Site is a nature reserve park and home to minority settlements, historical relics and the spectacular Nuorilang Waterfall. The rushing water flows into the clear Mirror Lake, reflecting the translucent beauty of the area and making an excellent photo opportunity.

Each year, more than two million people step upon the boardwalk trails through the woodlands backlit by snowy mountain ranges. Get away from the maddening crowd and feel on top of the world at the newly minted Banyan Tree Jiuzhaigou which is nestled on a tranquil mountaintop, 2,450 metres above sea level.

Explore your surroundings with an endless list of activities that offer an insight into culture, scenery or history. Choose from a Chinese herb and mushroom hunting trip, to a road trip across the Zoige Grassland offering magnificent views of snow-capped mountains and Buddhist monasteries or explore an ancient town.

You can also spend an afternoon in a county town to watch the Nanping Quzi and Baima Tibetan Zhou Dance, both listed as National Intangible Cultural Heritage. Then soothe your body at the award-winning Banyan Tree spa offering a menu of therapies blended from Chinese traditional herbs and natural ingredients. A unique hydrothermal experience awaits in The Rainforest, with a touch of Asian wellness for deep relaxation.





# DHAWA CAYO SANTA MARIA CUBA

Even without the intoxicating cocktail of rum and cigar, Cuba's attraction as a fun Caribbean island nation is undeniable. The Guardalavaca beaches are thronged with beautiful people and the city Havana pulses with the rhythmic beat of sensual salsa music.

Get the Cuban tan as you enjoy stretches of white sandy beach that overlooks crystal clear waters. Cuba is also famous for its beans: delicious fried beans and aromatic coffee beans, so do have some legumes and a cuppa!

Banyan Tree makes a splash into Cuba with this first property of its fourth brand, Dhawa. The multi-coloured all-sensory hotel is tailored to a new breed of travellers who crave creative designs in stylish settings.

Experience a personalised stay where design features are created with each guest in mind. Dhawa's rooms are the perfect place to chill with five different room categories. When hunger pangs strike, look no further than the five restaurants and four bars to satisfy your every craving.

Dhawa Cuba captures the country's personality with nightly shows of comedy and magic at the 545-seat Copacabana Theatre. More thrills? Living up to its cool and sassy image, the hotel also organises activities like aqua aerobics, dance classes, beach volleyball or hobie cat sailing.

Children get their special corner in the Kids Club. Animals are not left out. Marvel at the flamingos in the vicinity, with their pink plumage, slender legs and necks, and hooked bills. These pink residents of the nearby lake are cared for by the resort, as part of its ongoing sustainability programme.

Getting to Dhawa from the airport takes slightly over an hour as you journey through some of Cuba's liveliest areas. Pack your suitcase for a creatively chic Cuban experience.

**Opening offer: Book a minimum of 5 nights via [www.dhawa-cuba.com](http://www.dhawa-cuba.com) and receive a complimentary room upgrade! Reservations must be made 30 days prior to secure the complimentary room upgrade.**



# Saffron

## *An Interview with Chef Renu*

Saffron is the realisation of a dream: to establish a distinctive restaurant that recreates a taste of Thai cuisine in an innovative way, based on three distinct hallmarks. Building on delicacies originating from the historic Thai Royal courts, countryside dishes beloved by local villagers and all-time favourite home recipes, Saffron offers flavours for all palates – all backed up by fresh native ingredients.

I had the chance to dine at this exquisite Thai restaurant recently and what I thought to be a typical restaurant experience turned out to be one that left me floored. Make no mistake here, that a dining experience at this award-winning restaurant will more than impress.

Entering into the beautiful ambience of soft orange drapes and dimmed lights, we were greeted by lovely waitresses who displayed all the right signs to showcase how well trained they were. Instead of having a cold face towel to freshen up, a standard service rendered in most restaurants, your personal waitress brings you an empty decorated copper basin to rinse your hands over as she pours warm water seeped in fresh lemon. Warm towels were in place to dry our hands and face. We were then presented with complimentary appetisers – crackers with three different oh-so-yummy dips, and a wonderfully crisp savoury corn cake that carried a perfect hint of spice. These set the tone of the marvellous experience that was slowly unfolding before our eyes. Every single dish that came out of the kitchen at Saffron had a rich and pure, authentic Thai flavour, leaving us craving for more. It is therefore no wonder why Saffron is so highly raved about and commonly found in the top spots of restaurant lists.

One then wonders: Who is the masterful chef behind the mouth-watering dishes at Saffron? Today we speak to Chef Renu, the Corporate Chef and key person behind Banyan Tree's signature Thai restaurant, Saffron.





**We heard that you have had several opportunities to demonstrate your skills as a guest chef in hotel restaurants around the world! Where have you been and what do you like most about these trips?**

This topic is one that I like to tell my colleagues and the associates I meet when I visit other Saffron branches to motivate them. In my years working at Banyan Tree, I have had the opportunity to travel and participate in shows in over 10 countries including other renowned hotels and resorts. I have had the honour to act as an ambassador of Thai food with the Department of Thai Exports, and have visited countries such as Germany, Portugal, Korea, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Seychelles, China, Maldives, Dubai, Macau and Vietnam. I am particularly pleased that I have had the opportunity on countless occasions to work alongside 3 Michelin Star Chefs. I learned new techniques and methods that I have brought home to apply to Thai food at Saffron.

**What are the top 3 dishes guests should try at Saffron?**

I would recommend guests to try the "Assorted Appetizer", "Salmon Salad", and "Chicken Green Curry". These dishes are my favourite as I feel I have truly captured the essence of what Saffron stands for. The Assorted Appetizer is a compilation of Thai flavours combined in one dish. The Salmon Salad represents the coming together of Thai flavours, Thai herbs, and the delectable Salmon fish. The Green Curry represents the rhythm of Thai cooking. The curry paste is created with care by our chefs to reach the perfect balance of sweet and spice.

**How is working at Banyan Tree Bangkok different from the other hotels or restaurants you have worked at?**

I have been working for Banyan Tree for more than 10 years and it truly feels like my second home. The associates here are very kind and at ease with one another from the very first day. Unlike other restaurants and hotels I've worked at, Banyan Tree does not only accommodate your wellbeing but your entire family. This is the main difference I see. We also get the chance to develop our skills through a refined training program with internal and external trainers. They encourage internal promotions more than the recruitment of qualified candidates, which gives us an opportunity to grow. I truly respect the values and conduct of this place.

**To wrap up, can you share a Thai recipe that the readers can easily replicate at home?**

The Salmon Salad is an easy dish that I would recommend. The ingredients can be found no matter what country you are in and the dish is also rich in omega 3. Combine mint leaves, basil, finely sliced lemongrass, flaked pomelo, crushed chilli, crushed garlic, lime juice, fish sauce, and a pinch of sugar with grilled Salmon. Toss gently to avoid bruising the green vegetables and serve. The seasonings can be adjusted based on your personal preference. This is very simple and turns out a very refreshing and healthy dish.





# KOREAN GINSENG CHICKEN SOUP

Nourishing body and soul, Korean Ginseng Chicken Soup or Samgyetang is a traditional hot soup for seasonably hot days.

Featuring exotic and nutritious ingredients such as ginseng, jujubes, kalopanax and ginkgo nuts, the flavourful soup detoxifies, lowers cholesterol, improves blood circulation and boosts immunity.

It is believed that drinking this delicious soup on the hottest and most sultry summer days of Chobok, Junbok and Malbok will bring you good health.

## Ingredients:

- 400- 600g Fresh chicken
- 3 tablespoons Glutinous rice
- 3 Jujubes (Dried red dates)
- 4 Ginkgo nuts
- 15g Whole garlic
- 30g Ginseng root (4 years old)
- 10g Milk vetch root
- 10g Acanthopanax (Siberian ginseng)
- 10g Kalopanax bark
- 20g Leek
- 1L Water

## Garnish:

- 10g Green Onion

## Instructions:

Wash and rinse the chicken in cold running water.

Soak the glutinous rice for 1 hour.

Stuff the chicken with the glutinous rice, ginseng root, acanthopanax, milk vetch root, kalopanax bark, jujubes and 5 cloves of garlic. Place in pot together with leek.

Pour water into the pot and boil on high heat for 30 minutes. Skim off any foam and fat that rises to the surface. Add more water and boil on medium heat for 10 minutes.

Dish is ready to be served when chicken is tender. Garnish with green onions.

Serve with kimchi, salt and pepper.



# WETLAND POT OF TREASURE

Since the Song dynasty, Hangzhou has been the cherished paradise of literati. Located west of Hangzhou, the Xixi wetland area attracted famous literary figures such as Cao Xueqin, Yuan Mei, Hong Sheng and others who were drawn to the area's seclusion. These literati contributed to Xixi's cultural heritage because they brought along their private chefs who were greatly influenced by Confucius's teachings, such as "one should eat rice of the finest quality", and "one should eat meat that has been finely minced". As time passed, this brought about the emergence of Xixi cuisine.

The Wetland Pot of Treasure is a traditional Xixi dish that features meatballs, fish balls, dried pork rind, turnip seedlings and rice noodles combined in a stew pot, with golden egg dumplings symbolising gold ingots.

## Ingredients:

- 50g Baichoy
- 50g Shrimp
- 50g Enoki Mushroom
- 1 Egg
- 25g Sweet Potato Vermicelli
- 100g Silver Carp
- 20g Minced Pork
- 30g Sundried Pork Skin
- 700ml Chicken Soup

## Instructions:

Boil shrimp for 1 minute, drain and set aside.

De-bone the fish and pound fish meat into a paste.

Put eggs in a bowl and whisk. Next, in a pan, add oil and fry to make the egg roll skin.

To make egg dumplings, add minced pork to the egg roll skin and fold into half. Use the rest of the minced pork to make meat balls.

Put pork skin in a pot of boiled water. Set aside for 8 hours.

Wok-fry the enoki mushroom and baichoy in oil for 2 minutes.

In a pot, add chicken soup and bring to a boil.

Now, add enoki mushroom, baichoy, fish ball, meat ball, egg dumplings and vermicelli. Bring soup to a boil for 8 minutes.

Season to taste. Serve.





## INSIDE SCOOP ON VIETNAM

"The best thing about Lăng Cô for me is that the wonders of nature surround us, from the cool peaks of Hai Van to the warm waters of Lăng Cô Bay. The rivers, forest and even a lagoon are right at our doorstep.

Hai Van, a cool mountainous area, is one of my favourites. I relish sipping a drink at the peak, with Lăng Cô Bay below. This is a must-stop for all travellers who cross the 21km Hai Van Pass by motorbike. I also love taking a fishing boat to the nearby peninsula to enjoy the fresh water spring in the forest. I love my job.

We encounter different guests every day and there are always things that light up our day. One of my most treasured memories was when an older guest was invited to join us for a charity activity, in a home for handicapped children. As he played with them, he seemed to recall his childhood. He ate with them, sang for them and became like a boy all over again. To this day I still remember the joy on his face.

For memories, a photo at the Lăng Cô bridge is my ideal memento, a reminder of the historic fishing village and sandy beach. When I'm hungry, I often go to the beach restaurants to eat oysters, as they are delicious, nutritious and cheap. I'd also recommend that guests ride a bicycle outside our resort to mingle with the local people and fully enjoy the nature that surrounds us." - **Vinh Tran (Front Office Manager, Angsana Lăng Cô, Vietnam)**

### ABOUT THE RESORTS

Experience Vinh Tran's favourite places of nature. Banyan Tree Lăng Cô and Angsana Lăng Cô are nestled in the foothills of the Truong Son mountains in Central Vietnam. Both resorts look out over a magnificent 3 km sandy beach on a crescent bay.

Make your reservation at [banyantree.com](http://banyantree.com) or [angsana.com](http://angsana.com)



## TEE OFF FROM THE BEST IN BINTAN

At the newly upgraded Laguna Golf Bintan, golfers can enjoy a relaxing few days together in Indonesia just one hour from Singapore. This is the only golf course on Bintan island to feature awe-inspiring beachfront holes on both the front and back nine holes.

Playing the 18-hole, par-72 layout, golfers will experience a unique journey set within 60 hectares of a tropical paradise. The green is defined by nature with winding terrains of forestlands, lagoons, beachfront coconut groves and panoramic views of the South China Sea. The signature hole is the 17th where golfers are challenged to play directly over the spectacular natural rock formations, from a tee perched over the sea.

Originally designed by Greg Norman, the course promises pure inspiration for aspiring and seasoned golfers alike. In addition to the golf course revamp, there are a newly refurbished clubhouse and a fleet of new golf carts.

What better way to unwind after an exciting game than a lie-in on a private beach or a massage treatment? Be pampered at the award-winning Banyan Tree Spa or Angsana Spa. The all-villa Banyan Tree Bintan resort is designed in traditional Balinese style, with each villa raised up with stilts and set on hillsides. Angsana Bintan promises fun and adventure for larger groups and families. In 2017, Cassia Bintan will also be available as a chic serviced apartment option for golfers.

Banyan Tree Bintan and Angsana Bintan have teamed up with Laguna Golf Bintan to offer Stay and Play golf packages for the perfect golfing getaway. For more details, contact [Reservations.Bintan@banyantree.com](mailto:Reservations.Bintan@banyantree.com).



# STORY OF WOMAN

## Balancing it all - While in heels / Empowering women at work

One of the strongest voices advocating women's rights to succeed at work and at home belongs to Ms Claire Chiang, Senior Vice President of Banyan Tree Holdings Limited. Walking the talk, Ms Chiang co-founded Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts. The mother of three also pioneered the group's retail business in 1996 which has since grown to 80 over retail outlets worldwide.

Asked if women can have it all, Ms Chiang says: "Yes, but in separate phases of their lives. It is about achieving incremental wins at different times, accepting a calculus of what to give up, and trade-off, when to step back and step up to make our way up the corporate ladder without losing what we cherish personally and at the home front. Do not focus on problems, explore solutions instead. Every woman has a right in defining the "goddess" within her to direct her own meaning and purpose in life."

Many other accomplished females have built their careers at Banyan Tree, exemplifying what Ms Chiang believes in. Two of them share their experiences here. While their backgrounds and motivations are vastly different, their similar determination and willingness to learn shine through.

## Nopparat Aumpa, AVP and General Manager of Banyan Tree Bangkok

Having to work extra hard to prove her worth has not deterred Nopparat from climbing the corporate ladder. After graduating from college, she realised that she has a passion for the service line and enrolled into a hospitality course in order to join the industry. Her efforts have clearly paid off.

Nopparat says: "To earn people's respect, you have to show what you can do. Some people have the misconception that women are more emotional than men. That's why I have to prove myself by being result-oriented and ever ready for self-improvement. Banyan Tree gave me an opportunity, and even supported my study in Cornell. I'm lucky to work in a company led by Ms Chiang who is my role model."

Nopparat's turn to be a role model has arrived. Female associates now turn to her for advice. Her tip? "To succeed in the workplace, know your strength. You also need to know what you must improve. Don't compete with others, but seek to surpass yourself," she adds.



## Tashi Yangzom, General Manager, Angsana Tengchong • Hot Springs Resort

Successful women are those who are self-confident and dominant, while tempering these qualities with flexibility and teamwork. This is the observation of Tashi who credits her success to growing up in a family culture that supports her ambition.

From young, her parent encouraged her to be independent while her three brothers taught her to interact with the opposite sex on equal footing. Hence she does not feel that being female is an issue at all. The differentiating factor to success is not gender, but the willingness to learn.

Tashi says: "Banyan Tree have provided me the opportunity to develop my career and a conducive environment for learning. My advice to young females who want to succeed at work is to realise that you 'learn a living' and so in order to learn that living, you have to keep learning over time while keeping an eye on results."

## WHAT TRULY MATTERS

At MATTER, our dream is to make textile artisanship accessible to the mainstream, connect artisans and designers to become a collective that showcases the results of those collaborations. We strongly believe that for rural craft to thrive, we need to build a network that allows for access to market, providing quality products through good design. Through a hybrid supply chain model, our artisan partners develop unique, heritage-based fabrics that form the limited edition raw material for our pants collections. These garments are then made into products and finished by a fair factory that has expertise in garment construction and adheres closely to international compliance standards.

Working on the model of remote collaboration, we've collaborated with individuals from around the world. It starts on the foundation of mutual respect, aligned values and vision, open expectations and communication, and is propped up by clear parameters of responsibilities. Each of our supply chain partners are also chosen through a set of criteria emphasizing product integrity, community integration, and good business practice. We visit each partner personally and focus on building long term relationships for better market access.

Working collaboratively with artisan communities widens our perspective. They impact us positively in teaching us a different way of life and show us values of community, dedication and consideration. The artisan communities have been working on their craft for over three generations and exist in tandem with one another within a clear geographical space – because they share resources with one another and their livelihoods depend on it. There is a strong sense of community and relationships that is extremely endearing as well as inspiring.







<http://matterprints.com/>

# STYLE YOURSELF



1. The Classic Jumpsuit  
+ Rana



1. The Lounge Lunghi+  
Mountain Spirit



2. The Classic Jumpsuit  
+ Zalya



3. The Boxy Crop +  
Monochrome Tiles



4. The All Day Jumpsuit  
+ Kirana



5. The Jump-In Romper  
+ Vahi



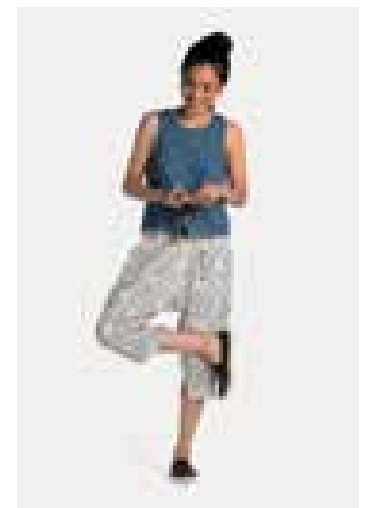
6. The Bermuda Shorts +  
Handloom Indigo



7. The Modern Monpe +  
Trikora



8. The Boxy Crop +  
Monochrome Tiles



9. The Modern Monpe +  
Alpine Rhythm

# CERAMICS:

## *Crafted From Clay*

Ceramics is one of the most ancient art forms in the history of human civilisation. From the processes of unearthing clay, to firing the moulded mix in sophisticated kilns, what is perhaps most outstanding in the process of creating these objects of art and function is man's resolve to form a relationship with the Earth through art.

The beauty of ceramics in its creation process translates across borders despite its different creative expression from East to West. For instance, the silky green-hued celadon ceramics have been a signature product of the kingdom of Thailand for over 700 years. This style traces back to China and Korea where the delicately cracked surface adds to their appeal, just as the rich jade green colour does whereby the jade stone, by many Asian cultures, is a status symbol or to bring good luck.

Despite the commercial viability and convenience of plastic, Banyan Tree was intent on using the more sustainable and local celadon ceramics in the commission of containers for its guest toiletries such as the signature celadon oil burner with the Banyan Tree logo. This deliberate move carried the end goal of reducing long-term harm to the environment.

Working with kilns in Thailand, the company was able to produce green and lead-free containers which are as popular today at the resorts and Banyan Tree Gallery, as they were when first introduced..

*"The word ceramic is derived from the Greek keramos which means to potter or pottery. But the Greek origin dates further back to the ancient Sanskrit root which gives a meaning to burn. Combining both meanings come the ingenious idea of burning earth to create pots and jars that continue to help our daily lives."*



*"Maintaining the heritage and story behind the product is a must. One way Gallery does this is by encouraging artisans to restrain foreign imports and concentrate on a local source. Designers at Banyan Tree may provide creative ideas and suggestions, but the artisans are given the freedom to reinvent and recreate – until impeccable. With the pride of artistry, it is the artisans themselves that insists on redoing everything, until they reach perfection."*





# STYLE YOUR HOME



# FRAGRANCE AT PLAY

*Thai Chamanard*



Find yourself enveloped in a soothing floral scent when you step into any of our Banyan Tree Hotels and Resorts.

The fresh subtle fragrance comes from the Thai Chamanard, an exotic indigenous bloom found in tropical Thailand. Paying homage to our flagship resort in Phuket, Thailand, the Thai Chamanard blossom was specially chosen for its delicate and exquisite fragrance. The crisp floral notes and smooth sweet undertones work its magic to evoke dreamy images of the tropical garden in Thailand.

First launched in year 1994, Banyan Tree has perfected its recipe for the Thai Chamanard body care and bath products to provide a quality shower experience for hotel guests. Always dedicated to pamper the five senses, in-shower amenities is an important aspect of a sensorial experience in the bathroom. The Thai Chamanard has now become an iconic scent of Banyan Tree, one that instantly transports guests to their memorable hotel stay.

Guest can readily find the Thai Chamanard Shampoo, Conditioner, Shower Gel and Body Lotion, in every bathroom of Banyan Tree. In fact, the refreshing collection has proven so popular with our guests that they were soon made available as convenient take-home bottles, sold at Banyan Tree Gallery. To ensure the best for guests and environment, the products are made of 90% natural and biodegradable key ingredients. In addition, they are free from Paraben, Sodium Lauryl Ether Sulfate (SLES) and Sodium Lauryl Sulfate (SLS), so it is perfectly gentle, even for sensitive skin.

Today, the well-loved collection has expanded to more than 17 different types of product ranging from Bath Crystals, Body Butter, Body Oil Mist, Milk Bath, Hand Lotion, Foaming Hand Wash to Lip Balms. The latest addition is the Thai Chamanard Facial Sheet Mask.

Formulated with an indulgent concentration of sodium hyaluronate and Centella asiatica extract - known to promote collagen production and protect skin against ageing, the facial mask restores a healthy glow to devitalised skin after a single use. Each mask is infused with ultra-fine Nanofront™ fibre and generously soaked with moisturising essence to enhance results.

So do enjoy the signature body care collection, exclusively found at our hotels and for those who would like to recreate the pampering experience at home, kindly visit [essentials.banyantree.com](https://essentials.banyantree.com) for more.



# CORAL CONSERVATION

## *Play Your Part*

One of the most productive and biologically diverse ecosystems on the planet, coral reefs support a quarter of all marine life. But they are under threat. Changes in seawater temperature can result in “bleaching”. That is when corals turn white which, if prolonged for over two weeks, can result in coral death.

The strong and long-lasting El Niño event combined with other weather phenomena has elevated ocean temperatures. The outcome is the most severe global coral bleaching in recorded history. As much as 93% of reefs on the Great Barrier Reef and 60% of those in the Maldives are affected. Small island nations are dependent on corals that underpin tourism and fisheries, so bleaching events can have major ecological and economic impact.

There is hope. Coral reefs can recover from bleaching. Successful recovery of a reef post-bleaching usually take decades. However, conservation and restoration efforts on Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru and Angsana Ihuru expedited it to just three to five years. The efforts have recently been described by Professor Al Edwards, the global authority on coral reef restoration, as “some of the best looking and most successful restoration I’ve ever seen anywhere in the world”.

The team behind Banyan Tree Marine Labs is implementing a holistic bleaching response in the Maldives. Dr Steve Newman, Group Director of Conservation and Director of Banyan Tree Marine Labs Maldives, shares that this strategy is supported by a pledge to include their house reefs in a national Maldives UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 2017.

Dr Newman says: “Our goal is more than just achieving high coral cover but to ensure effective future reef function and resilience through diversity. The ultimate aim is the preservation and restoration of one of the world’s most incredible natural wonders to leave a lasting legacy.”

### INVITATION TO CORAL PLANTING DAY

Banyan Tree believes in engaging with guests and local communities to support coral restoration. Coral planting takes place every week at Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru, Angsana Ihuru and Angsana Velavaru. Join us in the conservation of healthy coral reefs by transplanting naturally broken pieces to give them a second chance. These areas will be monitored to assess their recovery.

To find out more details on how you can help, email to [reservations-maldives@banyantree.com](mailto:reservations-maldives@banyantree.com)



*Kaanbal Tii Bej*, in the Mayan language, means “way of learning”. The phrase is exemplified by the essence of the Banyan Tree’s group-wide Seedlings initiative. Launched in 2007, Seedlings programmes aim to enhance the long term prosperity of communities by helping young people learn new skills and build their capabilities.

Banyan Tree Mayakoba is located in an area shared by descendants of the ancient Mayan indigenous group. Since its inception in 2010, the resort has provided mentorship, internship and scholarship to three batches of youths from this culture and immigrants from different parts of Mexico attracted to the tourism industry. The 13 students selected came from three villages located along the corridor of Cancun-Riviera Maya.

They have been learning a wide range of skills, from hospitality to computer software, from their mentors. The commitment demonstrated by the mentors has been overwhelming – 19 Banyan Tree associates have volunteered their time so far, putting in a total of 1,968 hours of mentorship.

Their efforts have paid off. A student from the first batch has since joined the kitchen department as a colleague, while a recent graduate Carlos de Jesus Morales had the privilege to launch the first Seedlings restaurant in America under the mentorship of Jorge Aguilar, Assistant Financial Controller.

Called Bang Teng Thai, the restaurant is located at the El Pueblito tourist attraction in Mayakoba. In Seedlings restaurants, staff members are from marginalised backgrounds and the training provided by the restaurant helps them build vocational skills for a successful career in catering.

Peter Hechler, General Manager said: “The Seedlings initiative represents an opportunity for disadvantaged young people to take charge of their own destiny. We also benefited from the rich cultural exchange. There were some students who didn’t complete the programme for various reasons. However, for most of them, it is a journey to learn, grow and be exposed to a new horizon of possibilities.”



## SHORT STAY, LASTING LEGACY

A short stay can turn into a Stay for Good, a programme which encompasses Banyan Tree’s sustainability efforts and encourages guests to get involved. The Banyan Tree Group is renowned as one of the hospitality sector’s leaders in sustainable tourism - conserving or restoring the environment, and benefiting the communities where we operate.

Take World Food Day in October. Banyan Tree hotels and resorts ran a Stay for Good ‘Feeding Communities Together’ project to provide meals as part of local celebrations or to underserved segments of the community.

Guests were invited to take part in preparing and serving meals to orphanages, elderly homes, schools, and families. For example, with the help of guests, Banyan Tree Samui, Banyan Tree Cabo Marqués and Angsana Balaclava Mauritius sent lunch boxes to local schools, HIV Kids Home and orphanages respectively. In total, 25,666 meals have been provided to communities under the ‘Feeding Communities Together’ banner since it was rolled out in 2014.

Another global initiative is the ‘Stay for Good Greening Communities Together’ programme in June to commemorate World Environment Day. Tree-planting and clean-ups took place across hotels worldwide. Associates and guests cleared rubbish from beaches, rivers, wetlands, hiking paths and streets. In its third year, this annual activity supports a clean environment for local inhabitants and helps to ensure the local wildlife thrives uninhibited.

Every guest who stays at a Banyan Tree, Angsana or Cassia property Stay for Good. Guests are usually invited to join in when these initiatives take place, but do feel free to go up to our Front Office at any resort and ask to participate in a Stay for Good activity. Let’s all do well and do good at the same time.





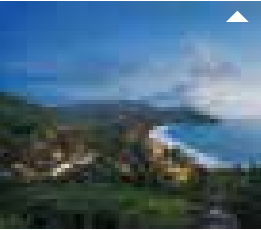
Banyan Tree Kuala Lumpur, opening in 2017, is strategically located in the capital of Malaysia with walking distance to world-renowned landmarks such as the Petronas Towers.

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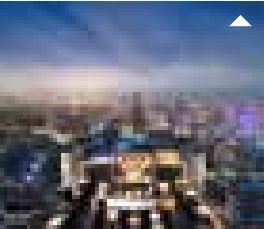
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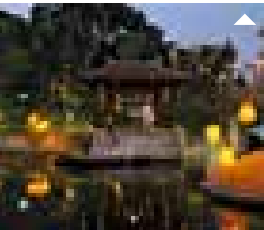
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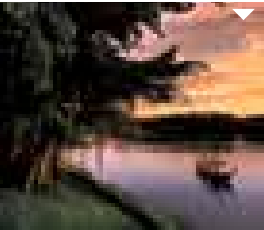
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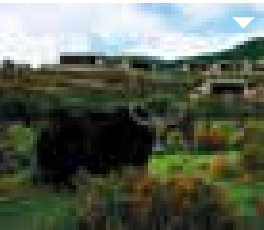
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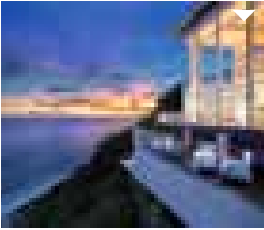
**DoublePool Villas by  
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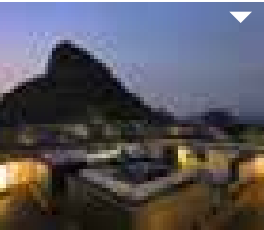
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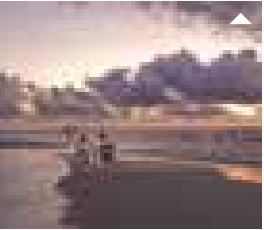
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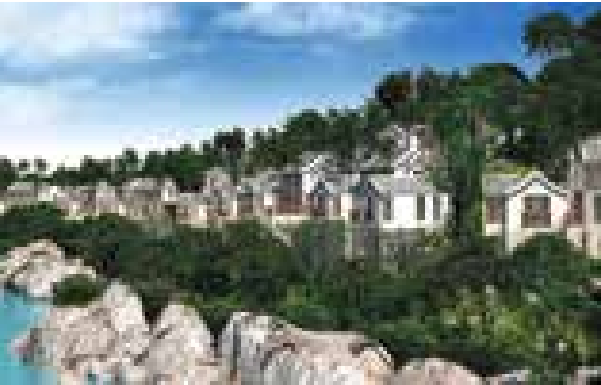
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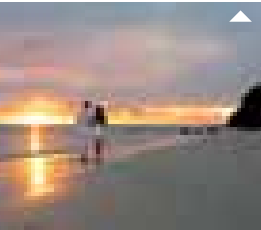
Famous for bamboo and being the hometown of white tea, Anji will be a new upcoming destination for Banyan Tree in 2017.



Opening in 2017, guests of Angsana Zhuhai Dalang Bay can delight in wonderful views of the iconic Pearl River.

AFRICA

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Derb NaKouss Derby Zaouia  
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**Angsana Riads Bab Firdaus**  
N.57-58 Rue de la Bahia  
Riad Zitoun Jdid, Medina  
40000 Marrakech  
Morocco

**Angsana Riads Blanc**  
N.25 Derby Si Said  
Riad Zitoun Jdid, Medina  
40000 Marrakech  
Morocco

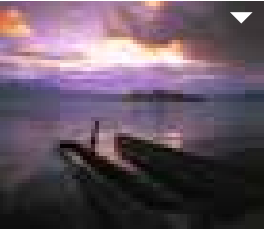
**Angsana Riads Lydines**  
N.45 Derby Abda, Kasbah  
40000 Marrakech  
Morocco

**Angsana Riads Si Said**  
N.1-2-4 Derby Abbes El Fassi  
Riad Zitoun Jdid, Medina  
40000 Marrakech  
Morocco

**Angsana Riads Lydines**  
N.10 Derby El Arsa  
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40000 Marrakech  
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ASIA PACIFIC

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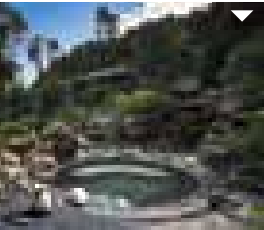
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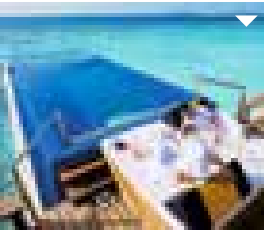
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**Angsana Velavaru**  
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Fax: +960 676 0029

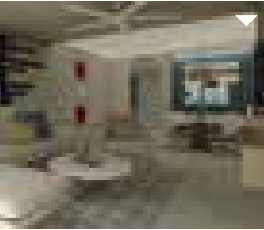
ANGSANA AFFILIATED HOTELS

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