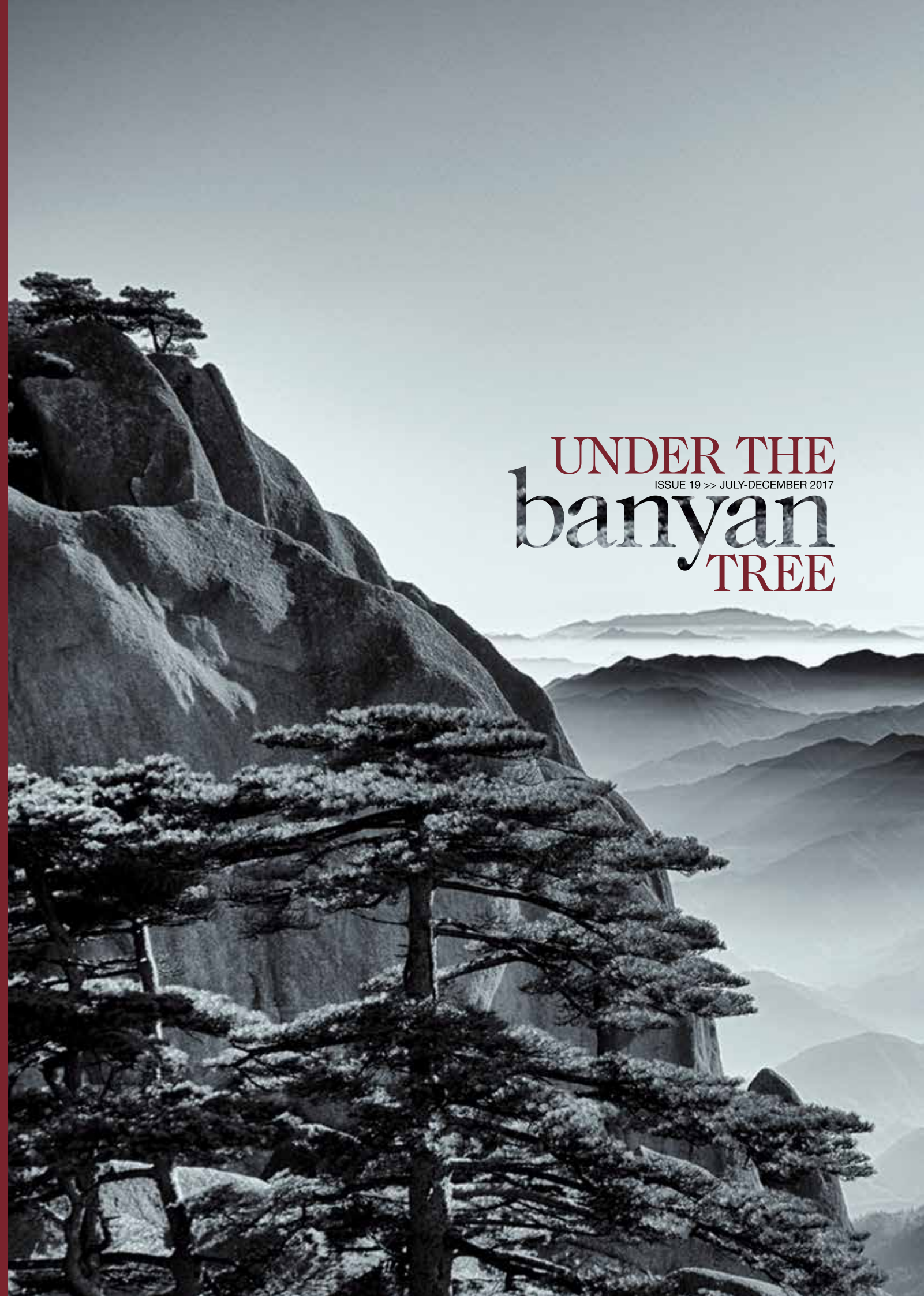




UNDER THE banyan TREE

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On The Cover : Huangshan

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“WE PROVIDE NATURALLY-LUXURIOUS, ECOLOGICALLY-SENSITIVE, CULTURE-AWARE EXPERIENCES FOR THE DISCERNING, RESPONSIBLE TRAVELLER. THEY ARE QUITE SIMPLY, THE WAY THINGS SHOULD BE.”

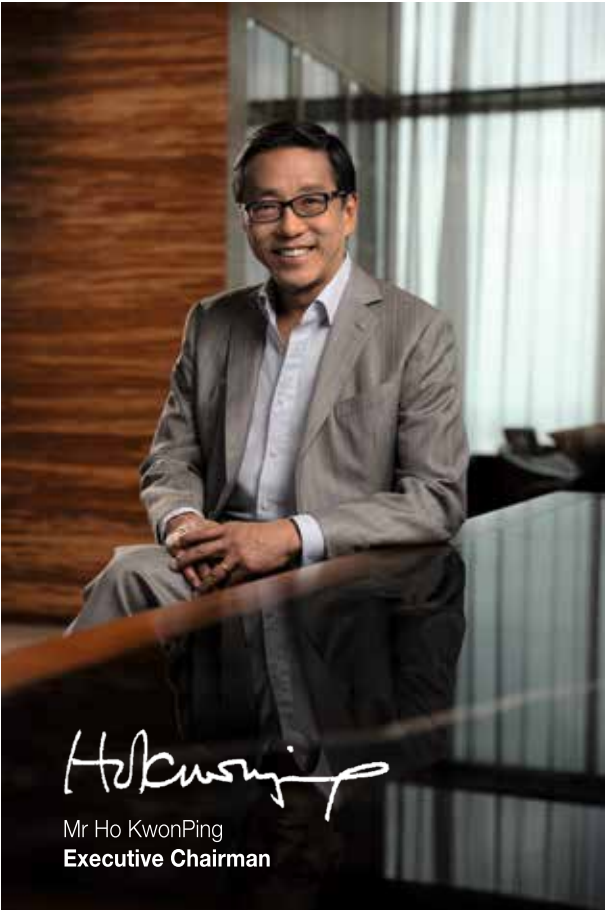
In the short span of twenty three years, Banyan Tree has sunk its roots deep into Asia and slowly spreading to other parts of the world. From our first hotel Banyan Tree Phuket – built on restored coastal land in Phuket, Thailand – we now have more than 40 hotels operating and another 20 under development across our collection of brands of Banyan Tree, Angsana, Cassia and Dhawa. While all our brands offer different experiences, the common thread remains our signature hospitality delivered with an authentic personal touch.

This edition of Under The Banyan Tree is full of amazing experiences. A visit to our newest hotels and resorts – Banyan Tree Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia, Angsana Zhuhai Phoenix Bay in Guangdong, and Cassia Bintan in Indonesia will have you booking your next flight. We explore the wellness trend with great tips for digital detox and feature local healthy recipes from our hotels.

Family bonding through travel is very much on our mind. Angsana is putting the final touches on a passport programme for kids’ participation during their stay. This is on top of the variety of complimentary activities offered daily for guests to bond, socialise and make new friends.

As Banyan Tree continues to grow, sustainability will become ever more important. Many of the initiatives that we have implemented under our *For Good* platform, such as tree planting, environmental conservation and supporting community crafts, will be adapted to and replicated in different locations. We highlight a few of these wonderful programmes in this issue.

We look forward to expanding in more exotic destinations for you to forge even more unforgettable memories for years to come.



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

MARRAKECH ARTS FESTIVAL

1 - 31 July

One of the major festivals in Marrakech, this festival attracts dancers, fortune tellers, snake charmers, entertainers and musicians from Morocco and all over the world.

*Banyan Tree Tamouda Bay, Morocco
Angsana Riads Collection Morocco, Morocco*

WATER BOMB FESTIVAL

29 July

Beat the summer heat with the most exciting dance, music and water festival in the heart of Seoul. Join one of two teams (red or blue), battle in a mega water-bomb fight, and then dance away to the booming music of live performances.

*Banyan Tree Club & Spa Seoul,
South Korea*



STORM ELECTRONIC MUSIC FESTIVAL

October

One of Asia's biggest electronic music festivals, Storm will be heading for Shanghai in Autumn. This year's line-up includes world-famous DJs and music producers Alesso, Oliver Heldens, Duke Dumont and Skrillex.

Banyan Tree Shanghai On The Bund, China

CONCERT IN THE PARK

December

Join a complimentary outdoor concert in Lumpini Park, Bangkok, courtesy of the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra. Concerts are held on most Sundays from mid-December through to the end of February.

Banyan Tree Bangkok, Thailand

THE INTERNATIONAL KRÉOL FESTIVAL

17 - 18 November

Celebrate the kreol culture of Mauritius with dancing, concerts and literary readings. A collaboration between the Ministry of Tourism and External Communications and the Ministry of Arts and Culture, the festival promotes the kreol culture through local music, arts, language and cuisine.

*Angsana Balaclava Mauritius,
Mauritius*



LIJIANG OLD TOWN

The Old Town of Lijiang is an ancient town in the Lijiang Autonomous County of the Naxi Ethnic Minority in Yunnan Province. Located 2,400 metres (7,874 feet) above sea level, walk along quiet alleyways and cobbled-stone streets. Browse through charming handicraft and antique shops for local produce, embroidery and silverware.

Banyan Tree Lijiang, China



CHEFCHAOUEN

Chefchaouen, or Blue City, is located in the Rif Mountains of northwest Morocco. This old town is known for its striking, variously hued blue-washed buildings. It is a popular tourist destination because of its proximity to Tangier and the Spanish enclave of Ceuta. The name refers to the shape of the mountain tops above the town that look like the two horns (chaoua) of a goat. A popular shopping destination, it offers many local handicrafts unavailable elsewhere in Morocco.

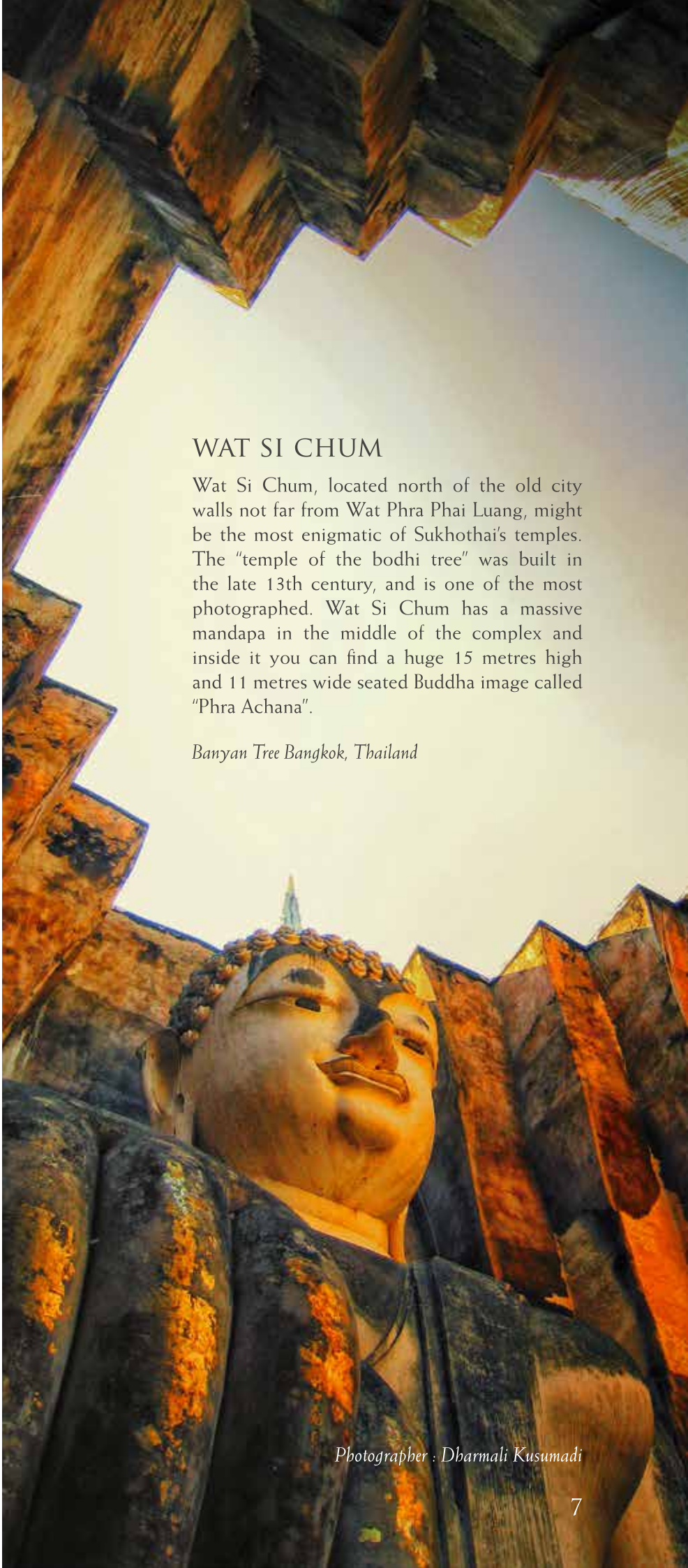
Banyan Tree Tamouda Bay, Morocco



WAT SI CHUM

Wat Si Chum, located north of the old city walls not far from Wat Phra Phai Luang, might be the most enigmatic of Sukhothai's temples. The "temple of the bodhi tree" was built in the late 13th century, and is one of the most photographed. Wat Si Chum has a massive mandapa in the middle of the complex and inside it you can find a huge 15 metres high and 11 metres wide seated Buddha image called "Phra Achana".

Banyan Tree Bangkok, Thailand



Photographer : Dharmali Kusumadi



KUANGSI WATERFALL

Kuang Si (Xi) Waterfall is the biggest in the Luang Prabang area and a favourite side trip for tourists in Luang Prabang. The falls follow a forest trail that begins in shallow pools atop a steep hillside. These lead to the main fall with a 60 metres (200 ft) cascade. The pools make great swimming holes and are very popular with both tourists and locals.

*Maison Souvannaphoum, Laos
The Grand Luang Prabang, Laos*



ULUWATU TEMPLE

Uluwatu Temple Bali is located at the top of a majestic cliff, 100 metres above the ocean. It overlooks the Indian Ocean and some of Bali's famous surf breaks, and is considered one of the country's most important architecture. Wander the well-kept grounds and admire the ancient sculptures, take in the beautiful picturesque view and stay until sunset to enjoy one of the nightly traditional Kecak dance performances.

Banyan Tree Ungasan, Bali

KUALA LUMPUR, THE CITYSCAPE OF CULTURE

Banyan Tree Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Kuala Lumpur is the perfect city to explore the melting pot of Malaysia. Home to 1.8 million 'KLites', the capital is not short of thrills and tastes. Head to a traditional market in Little India and be prepared for a sensory attack of anything from curry, glittering gold and colourful saris to the smell of fresh produce and wet market goods. Or put your bargaining skills to the test at the famous flea market in Petaling Street, the Chinatown of Kuala Lumpur.



Situated in the heart of Kuala Lumpur's commercial and entertainment hub, Banyan Tree Kuala Lumpur gets you close to the action yet whisks you instantly into a tranquil retreat if you need an escapade. Only 45 minutes from Kuala Lumpur International Airport, the hotel is a sleek 60-storey building which sits elegantly apart from other skyscrapers.

The resort is the perfect starting point to Kuala Lumpur's key attractions. What's a city escapade without the retail therapy? Some of the city's swankiest malls like Pavilion and Starhill are located within walking distance. Indulge yourself in brands you love or get treats for those you love during the four times yearly Malaysia Mega Sale.

When the night falls, the city comes alive. Take your pick of the experiences, from bustling streets lined with hawker fare where locals gather, to cool clubs at TREC including Zouk, a branch of the world-renowned Singapore club. A short hop away is Jalan Alor, where tantalising local fare awaits your tastebuds. If you want chic dining, several famous restaurants are just round the corner.

Spot the glittering Petronas Twin Towers? They are within walking distance and no trip to Kuala Lumpur is complete if you don't go up close and take a lift up for a breathtaking view of the city.

Banyan Tree Kuala Lumpur also promises gorgeous views of the city skyline. Designed with the city travellers in mind, this sanctuary for the senses has

55 exquisite rooms and suites draped in modern flair. Linger indoors or admire the panoramic view by the pool on the 53rd floor after a day's worth of exploring.

Head to the award-winning spa for some calm time and a relaxing treatment by highly skilled therapists or get a burst of adrenaline at the state-of-the-art fitness centre.

If you prefer to dine in, let Banyan Tree Kuala Lumpur's signature restaurant Horizon Grill spoil you with its extensive selection of dry and wet-aged prime beef. Fresh artisan breads from the bakery and exquisite wines at the wine lounge are also available to fit your style and comfort. As evening dawns, head to our al fresco tapas rooftop bar Vertigo and be swept away by the attentive hospitality and breathtaking skyline views. With choices this good, amazing experiences never end in Malaysia's vibrant capital city.

Try These!

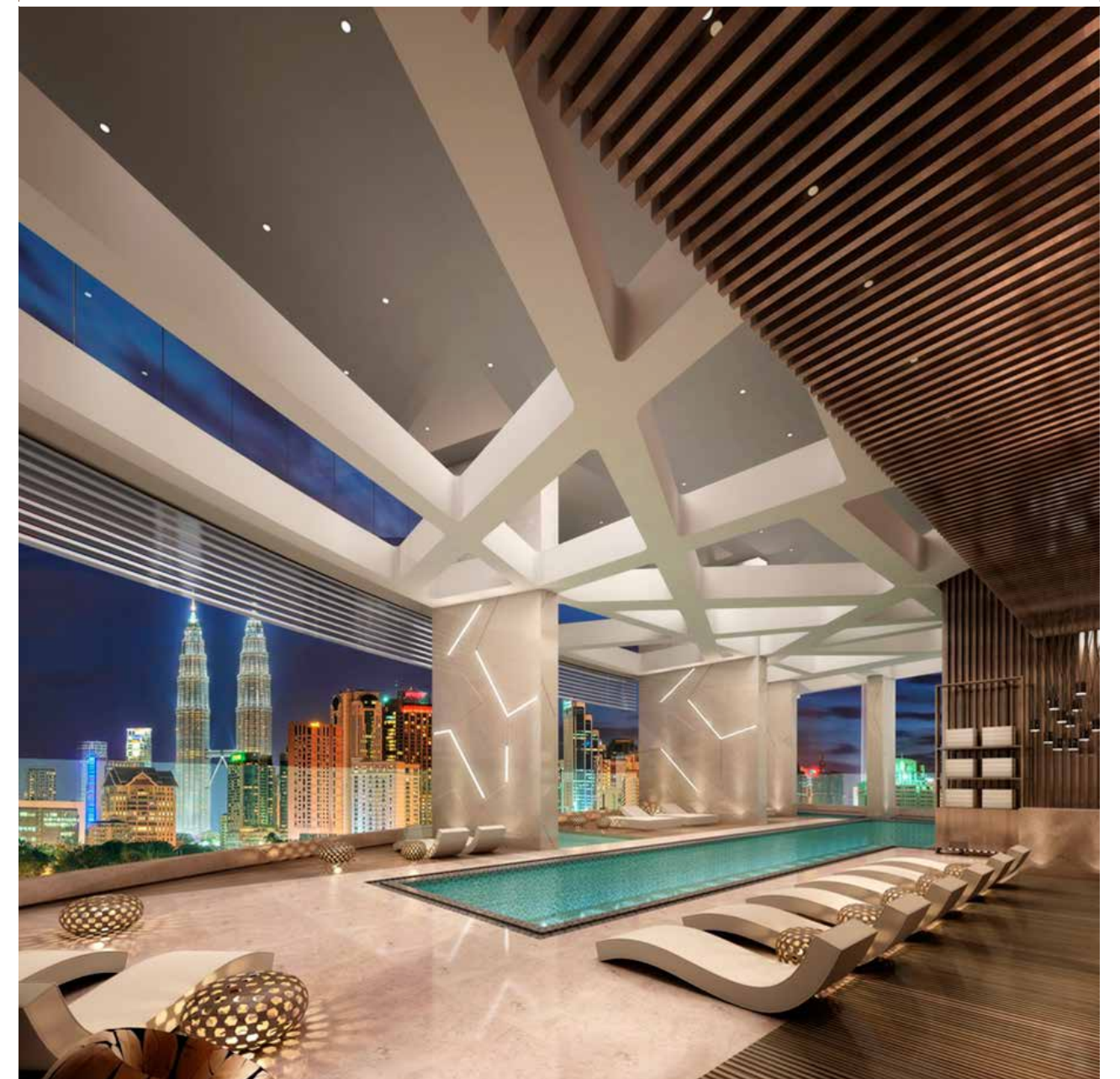
Best Local Delight: Nasi Lemak

Best Coffee Place: Feeka, Changkat Bukit Bintang

Best Dining Spot: Manja, Old Malaya, Jalan Raja Chulan

Best Place to Chill: TREC

Best Place for Entertainment: Pavilion Kuala Lumpur



SHINY NEW PEARL BY THE SOUTH SEA

Angsana Zhuhai Phoenix Bay, China



As one of China's pioneer Special Economic Zones, Zhuhai has the privilege of developing into a thriving modern city while retaining the laidback charm of a coastal community. Zhuhai means Pearl Sea, located in China's Guangdong province where the Pearl River meets the South Sea.

Within easy reach of other bustling cities, Zhuhai is on the border with Macau and a one-hour ferry ride away from Hong Kong. As a gateway to these immensely popular tourist spots Macau and Hong Kong, Zhuhai is well-positioned as a destination with the best of both worlds.

The area is celebrated for its nearby island attractions, gorgeous long coastline and picturesque golf courses. Not into golf? Then exercise along the pedestrianised shopping belt and nip into one of the well-stocked shopping malls.



Zhuhai has something to excite all ages. Kids will love the Chimelong Ocean Kingdom, an exciting theme park to learn more about the underwater world while having wholesome fun. Then have a taste of South China. Savour traditional Cantonese cuisine like dim sum or eat like the locals at a BBQ street stall.

Couples are not left out. Along the main promenade of Zhuhai is a waterfront stretch lined with swaying palm trees. Called Zhuhai Lovers' Road, it is an ideal place for a romantic stroll and to enjoy panoramic views of the city.



Zhuhai Phoenix Bay's new pearl

This summer is more sizzling than usual as the story of Angsana in China continues to unfold with a new chapter in Zhuhai, located at Phoenix Bay, Xiangzhou district. Unfolding in three phases, the stylish contemporary resort has more than 200 rooms, all with unhindered and spectacular sea views.

Angsana Zhuhai Phoenix Bay reflects the oriental charm of its home city and is easy to access. A ten-minute journey from Zhuhai Downtown and a one-hour journey from Zhuhai Airport, Angsana Zhuhai Phoenix Bay is close to the hub of the city and a perfect retreat for those visiting the vicinity of Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Macau. The Macau airport is just a mere 30 minutes away.

To give the resort a sense of place, the resort's architecture is inspired by the local Lingnan heritage

with iconic arched roofs. The interior design bears modern artistic touches of wood, stone and bold colours to create the perfect setting for relaxation.

Fun for couples and families

Zhuhai's reputation as one of China's cleanest and prettiest cities has won it many fans amongst vacationing couples and families. Live life spontaneously at Angsana Zhuhai Phoenix Bay – sunbathe on the beach with the kids, or sip a cocktail with a loved one by the lagoon pool. Alternatively, introduce the young ones to new playmates at the Kids Club, with experienced help on hand to keep them entertained with fun educational activities.

Most rooms boast expansive balconies to enjoy the sub-tropical climate, comfy sea breeze and sweet birdsong; the suites have exclusive in-suite swimming pools for quiet moments. Give any event a pearly

sheen at the lovely 400-sqm ballroom which can be reserved for an unforgettable wedding, corporate dinners and other important occasions.

Dining options are aplenty, from international buffets and an extensive ala carte Western menu at the main restaurant, to delicate local bites and teas at the lobby lounge all day long. An Asian specialty restaurant featuring contemporary Thai fare will round up the palate pleasers.

Refresh further with a restful yoga session or at the award-winning Angsana Spa. The spa is equipped with 10 private rooms and a comprehensive range of treatments originating from traditional Asian therapies aimed at refreshing the mind, body and soul.

Let the magic of Zhuhai overwhelm you. Set the scene for your next holiday at Angsana Zhuhai Phoenix Bay, Xiangzhou's premier resort.

Try These!

Best Local Delight: Hengqin Royal Oyster 横琴贵妃蚝, Doumen Crab Shell 斗门重壳蟹, Baiteng Lotus 白藤莲藕, Wanshan Prawn 万山玉对虾

Best Coffee Place: Soak in time Movie coffee (拾光里电影咖啡), Maan Coffee (漫咖啡), Micro-Lot Coffee (微批次咖啡)

Best Dining Spot: Jinyuexuan Seafood Restaurant (金悦轩海鲜酒家), Shishen Seafood City (食神海鲜城)

Best Place to Chill: M2 Club, MIUMIU Club (MIUMIU艺术酒吧), SOHO Club (苏荷酒吧)

Best Place for Entertainment: Young Mix Plaza (扬名广场), Hua Fa Shopping Mall (华发商都)





**LIVE, LAUGH
AND LOVE
YOUR WAY**
AT CASSIA BINTAN



Craving for an awesome adventure unlike any other? Chill at the uber-chic Cassia Bintan, Indonesia. Opening in August 2017, this latest addition to Laguna Bintan is less than an hour by ferry from Singapore and only a 6-kilometre drive from Bandar Bentan Telani Ferry Terminal.

Offering spectacular views of the South China Sea, Cassia Bintan provides unique experiences filled with a sense of freedom and flexibility unlike conventional hotels. A home away from home, it is an affordably stylish destination where you can define an amazing holiday on your own terms without over-stretching your budget.

Perfect for short getaways for millennials, single hangouts and all young at heart! Live life to the fullest with space designed for maximum usage, fitted with a compact kitchen. With 56 apartments, the 42 to 51sqm one-bedroom suites feature master bedrooms or lofts with separate living areas.

Cook like a celebrity chef, complete with state-of-the-art kitchen tools. Enjoy sizzling steamboat with friends in the apartment, with seafood and ingredients available from Market 23. Unwind at the new Angsana XANA Beach Club. With free resort wi-fi, post Instagram-perfect pictures to impress your followers.

Cassia Bintan is also an ideal holiday home for extended stay with apartment purchase option available.

Have a blast outdoors

Make your way to Angsana Bintan to get your fill of a yumilicious buffet breakfast. Choose from six restaurants within Laguna Bintan where Cassia is located, and seven Destination Dining locations. Hunger will never be an issue.

There are some food places outside Laguna Bintan vicinity, such as the Tanjung Pinang market which is famous for its crunchy prawn crackers aka keropok. If not, head over to Cassia's Market 23 for a convenient grab-and-go meal - microwave oven is provided.

Nature lovers can live on the wild side and spot native wildlife on the Mangrove Discovery Tour, or race each other on the rugged Gunung Bintan Adventure Trek to be the first to enjoy a stunning view of the island. Senggarang is for heritage lovers. The Chinese fishing settlement is home to a 200-year-old Banyan tree where local Buddhists make pilgrimage.

Boogie at the new XANA beach club

Get ready for a time of cool vibes and hot music. The music at Angsana Bintan's new and trendy XANA Beach Club woos you to let loose and party the night away. Angsana's XANA Beach Club will feature the best mix of music and deejays from Indonesia and Singapore, and Cassia Bintan guests can dial up the energy and show off sleek dance moves.

Just want to chillax? Snuggle up on our ample colourful cosy bean bags and comfy lounge furniture on the pristine beach while sipping cocktails put together by the mixologists from the XANA bar. Whichever you choose, you'll never want to leave.

Be welcomed by the fab hotel staff – Cassia Friends – and mingle with other like-minded intrepid travellers. XANA is the bold new playground for the resort's guests and hip happening locals and tourists. At Cassia Bintan, there are no strangers, only friends that you haven't met.

Try These!

Best Local Delight: Mee Soto, Gado-gado, Nasi Padang

Best Dining Spot: The Kelong Seafood Restaurant, Warung Yeab, Pizza Casa Italia

Best Place to Chill: Trikora Beach, FlyBoyz, Hoobar and Cuba Sky Lounge

Best Place for Entertainment: Pasar Oleh-Oleh, Tanjung Pinang, Pujasera Shopping & Market

TOP FIVE DESTINATION DINING SPOTS

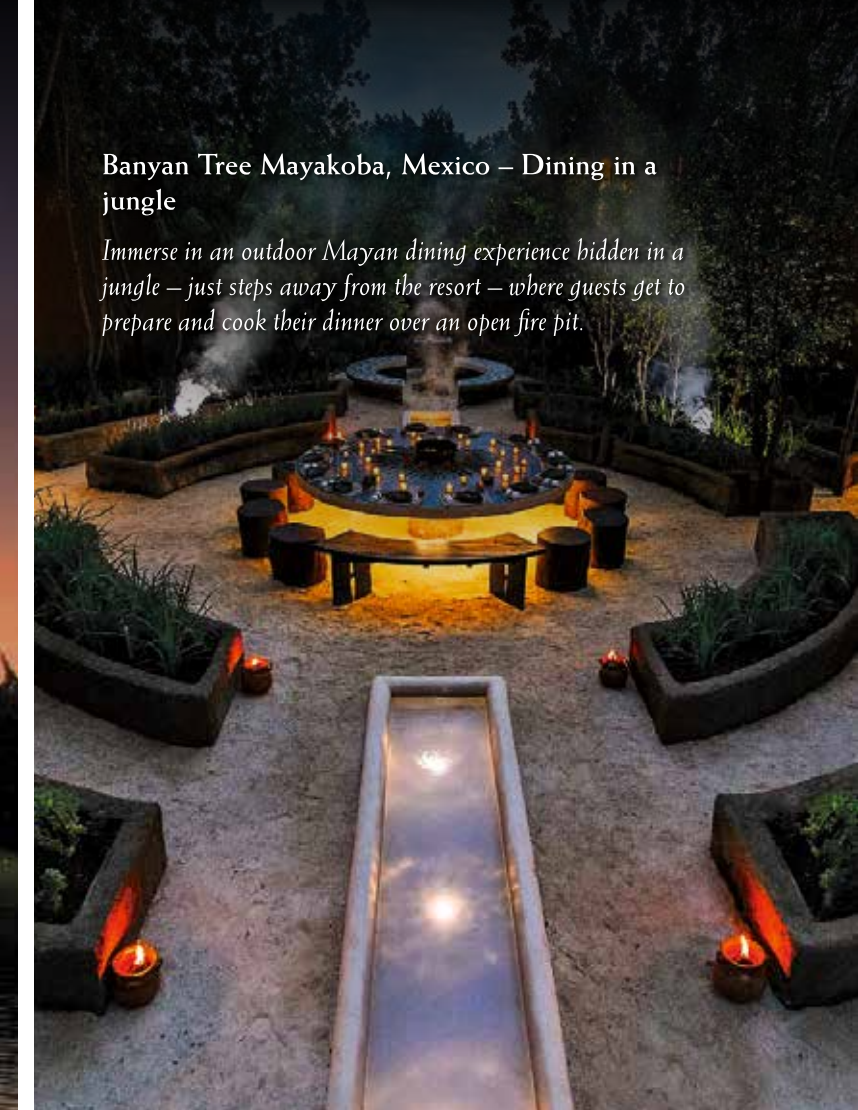
As twilight falls, put a loving twist to your romance with a Destination Dining experience. The deep afterglow hues create the perfect ambience as you indulge in a romantic dinner for two. A delectable spread awaits you and your loved one; an experience nothing but irresistibly memorable.

Here are our picks for creating these lingering sweet memories:



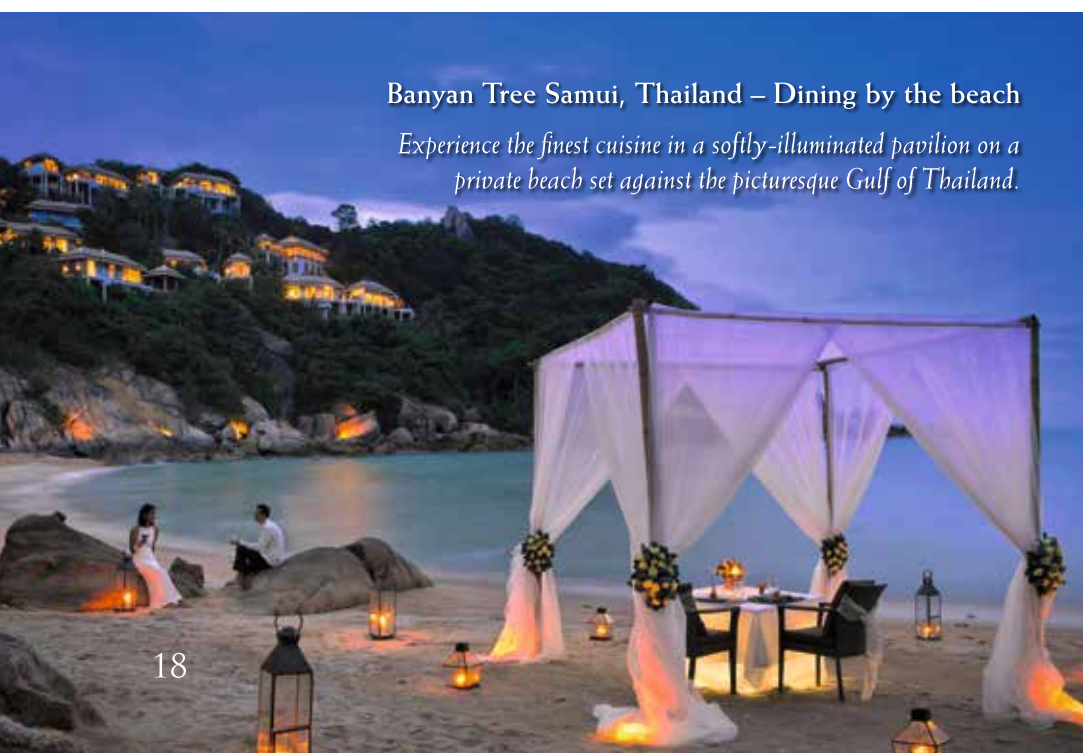
Banyan Tree Phuket, Thailand – Dining on a long tail boat

On this dinner cruise, savour fine Thai cuisine while being entertained by traditional Thai music. Let the mesmerising sunset add to the romantic atmosphere.



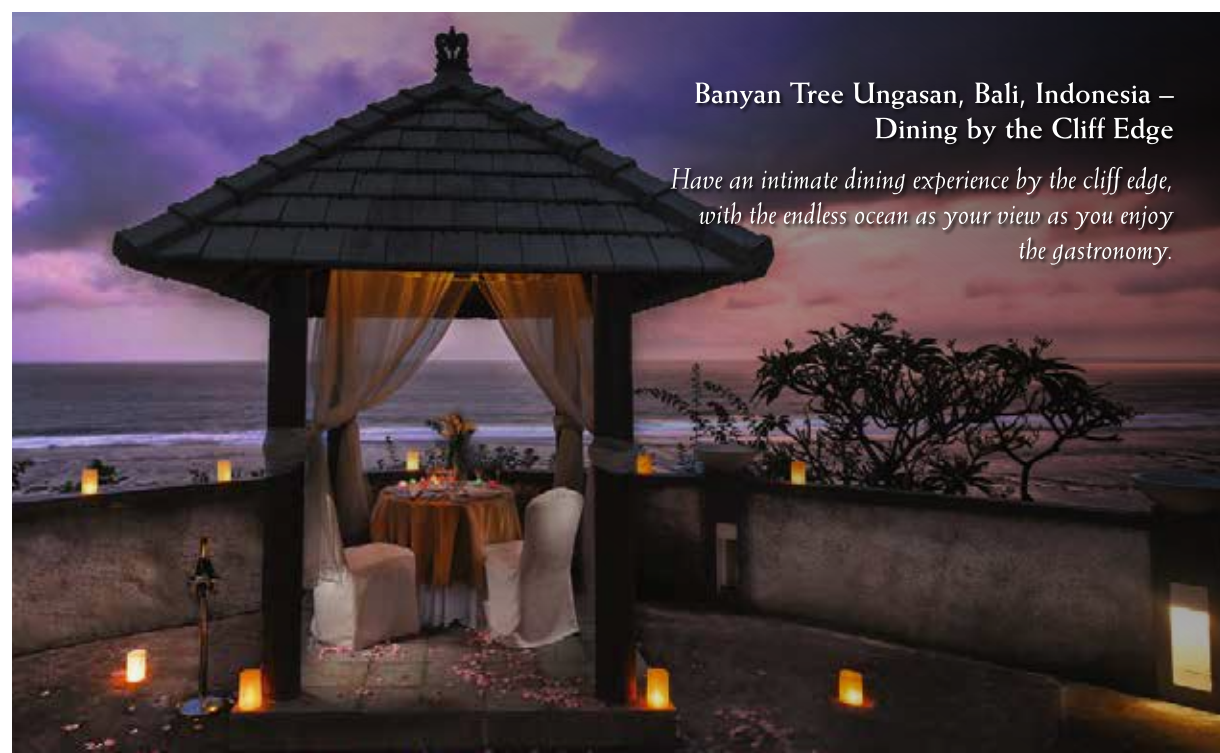
Banyan Tree Mayakoba, Mexico – Dining in a jungle

Immerse in an outdoor Mayan dining experience hidden in a jungle – just steps away from the resort – where guests get to prepare and cook their dinner over an open fire pit.



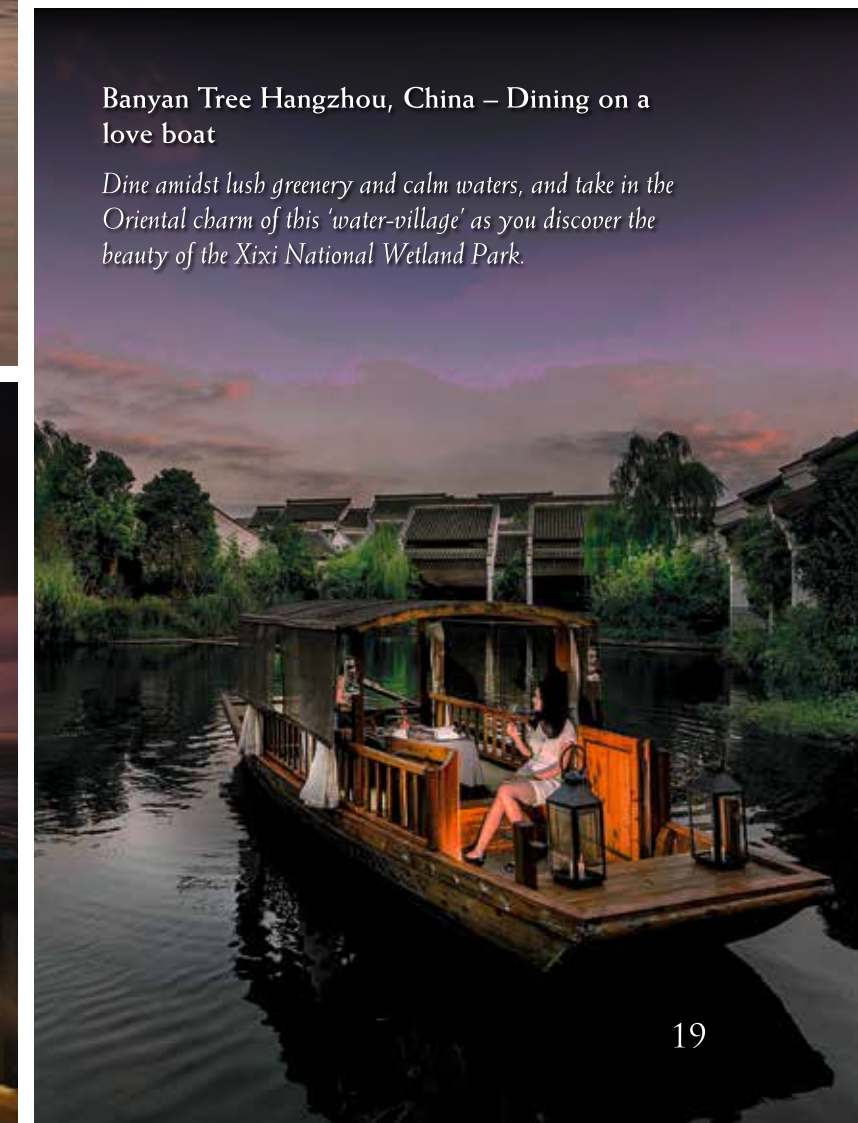
Banyan Tree Samui, Thailand – Dining by the beach

Experience the finest cuisine in a softly-illuminated pavilion on a private beach set against the picturesque Gulf of Thailand.



Banyan Tree Ungasan, Bali, Indonesia – Dining by the Cliff Edge

Have an intimate dining experience by the cliff edge, with the endless ocean as your view as you enjoy the gastronomy.



Banyan Tree Hangzhou, China – Dining on a love boat

Dine amidst lush greenery and calm waters, and take in the Oriental charm of this 'water-village' as you discover the beauty of the Xixi National Wetland Park.



VERACRUZANA FISH FILLET

As a result of the Spanish conquest of the Aztec Empire in the 16th century, today's Mexican cuisine is a fusion of Mesoamerican cooking with European culinary. The one common vegetable (or now a fruit) used in this cuisine is the tomato. The name "tomato" is derived from the old term, "tomatl" or "xitomatl". This vegetable is originally from the American continent and its unique flavour makes it a predominant ingredient in most local dishes. The Veracruzana Fish Fillet is an original dish from Coatepec, a small town in the Gulf state of Veracruz, and it features estate-grown tomatoes as well as other local herbs and spices, making it one of the most popular Mexican cuisine choices.

Ingredients:

- 200g Red Bell Pepper (for the sauce)
- 50g Green, Yellow and Red Bell Pepper (for garnishing)
- 20g Mixed Olives
- 2 Cloves
- 1 Bay Leaf
- 20g Garlic
- 20g Red Onion
- 200ml Fish Stock
- 10g Chipotle Chili (optional)
- A pinch of Salt
- A dash of Black Pepper
- 10g Coriander (garnish)
- 2 tbsps Olive Oil
- 2 Lime (squeezed juice)
- 1 Red Snapper (fillet)

Instructions:

Cut all the vegetables into small pieces.

Pour the vegetables into fish stock and leave to cook for 30 minutes.

Once cooked, pour vegetables and stock into a blender and blend. Pour the sauce through a strainer.

Pour sauce back into the pan and let it simmer. Keep it warm.

Coat the surface of another pan with oil. At medium heat, fry the fish until it turns brown.

Sprinkle salt and pepper on both sides of the fish.

Serve fish with sauce and garnishing.

Recipe from Banyan Tree Mayakoba, Mexico

GAENG KAI BAAN YOD MAPRAO ON

Red Curry Free-range Chicken with Coconut Heart

As Thailand's largest exporter of coconuts, it is no surprise that Samui earned the nickname 'Coconut Island'. Naturally, the local community incorporated this beloved fruit into the cuisine to add a rich sweetness to dishes ranging from soups to desserts. Gaeng Kai Baan Yod Maprao On, or Red-Curry Free-Range Chicken with Coconut Heart, is one such dish.

Featuring red curry, a popular ingredient throughout Southern Thailand along with coconut heart – the delicate portion of the tree found in a limited quantity within the base of the crown of the coconut tree – the dish is a prime representation of Samui cuisine. The coconut heart is considered a delicacy and is very nutritious; rich in fibre and minerals and does not contain cholesterol or saturated fat unlike the nut.

Ingredients:

- 150g Coconut Heart
- 100g Free-Range Chicken
- 5 Kaffir Lime Leaf
- 5 Sweet Basil
- 2 tbsps Fish Sauce
- 2 tbsps Vegetable Oil
- 1 tsp Salt
- 50g Red Curry Paste
- 3 Red Chili
- 1 tbsps Palm Sugar
- 200ml Coconut Milk
- 50ml Chicken Stock

Instructions:

Heat vegetable oil in a pan.

Add red curry paste and stir for 2 minutes until aroma fills the air.

Add coconut milk, followed by chicken stock, and then the free-range chicken. Boil together until chicken is cooked.

Add coconut heart and let it boil.

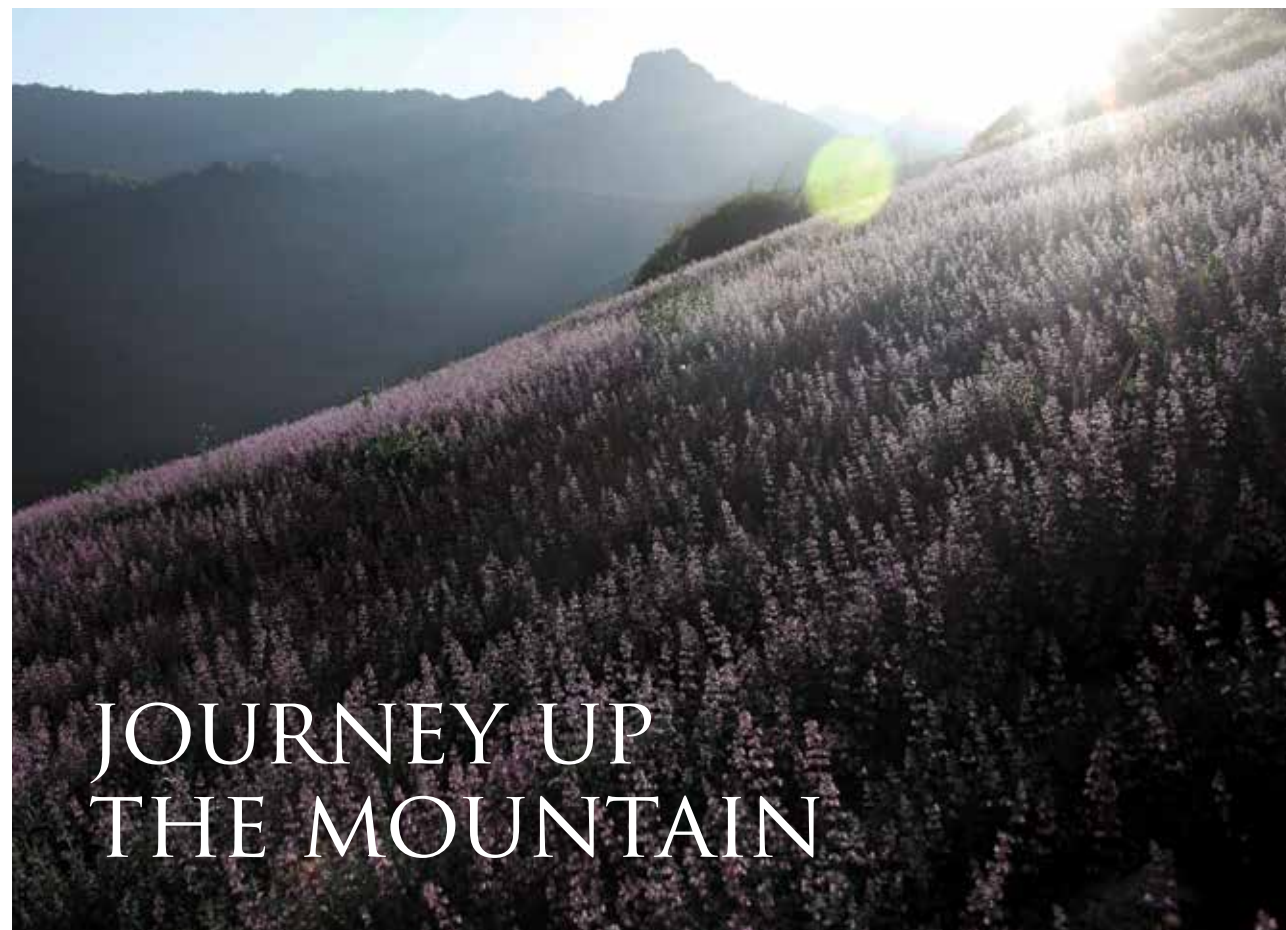
Pour in the palm sugar, salt and fish sauce.

Remove from heat and add the sweet basil, kaffir lime leaves and chili.

Serve with steamed rice.

Recipe from Banyan Tree Samui, Thailand





As the first men to ascend Mount Everest in 1953, Sir Edmund Hillary and Nepalese Sherpa mountaineer Tenzing Norgay did not glorify themselves as having conquered the world's highest peak. Sir Edmund Hillary did not even take a photograph of himself and stressed to the media that it was the journey together rather than the final destination that mattered.

This humility is shared by many mountaineers. The journey up and down a mountain is as much a healthful activity as it is a soulful passage. You may not be a professional but don't pass up an opportunity to do some hiking of your own.

Many mountainous regions in Asia Pacific, United States of America and Europe have developed a hiking culture and carved out a wide array of trails to go along with the geography. Whether you are seeking long, multi-day treks through the Himalayas or easy day trips from the cities, these countries offer abundant opportunities through a diverse set of climates, gradients and trail difficulty levels.

What to expect

Each climb rewards the hiker with a healthy body, an agile mind and great endurance developed from the many challenges on the trails. Steep slopes require intense focus to traverse, and there is a small

risk of encountering poisonous plants or dangerous animals such as snakes or bears.

However, with experience, mountaineers are equipped with knowledge on what to do to minimise the risks and the treacherous paths to avoid. Then again, there are unexpected yet lovely encounters with nature – wild animals like the snub-nosed monkey, deer, wild ox and snakes.

Beginners should bring a trekking pole, do some stretching exercises to warm up and ensure that they have eaten something beforehand. Pace the steps – do not go too fast or too high so as to avoid altitude sickness. Always bring water and some snacks.

Ask for a guide

Many of our resort guests are intrepid travellers seeking peace and a sense of place, and nothing quite matches that deep serenity and feeling that comes from the breathtaking views of nature during a hike.

The hotels and resorts in the mountains have staff members who call the nearby peaks their home. They are more than thrilled to show guests around, provide advice on things to bring or recommend an experienced guide. The hike may be exhausting at first but it will also be exhilarating.

Banyan Tree Jiuzhaigou's Security Department Associate Duke Huang, 23, shares why climbing is more than just traipsing through nature for him and his family.

1. When did you start climbing mountains regularly?

Born and raised in a mountain village five kilometres from where the resort is located, I started to scale the mountains with my parents to work in the fields when I was eight. When I turned 12, mountain climbing became a regular activity. We even have a mountain named after our family and the villagers with the same surname – Huangjiashan (黄家山).

2. What made you love climbing mountains?

Mountain climbing is part of my life. Living in the mountains for generations, my family considers the mountains a part of our heritage where we pasture cattle, work in the fields and collect fresh vegetables. My favourite vegetable is a nutritious and tasty wild mushroom which can only be found by those in the know.

3. What is your favourite thing about climbing?

I am constantly amazed by the beautiful starry sky when camping on the mountain top, and the varying appearances of the same mountain through the seasons. It's magical.

4. What are some challenges you face?

Hiking during a storm is quite a challenge and highly unadvised. Apart from that, a common challenge for me will be fatigue.

5. Who do you usually climb with?

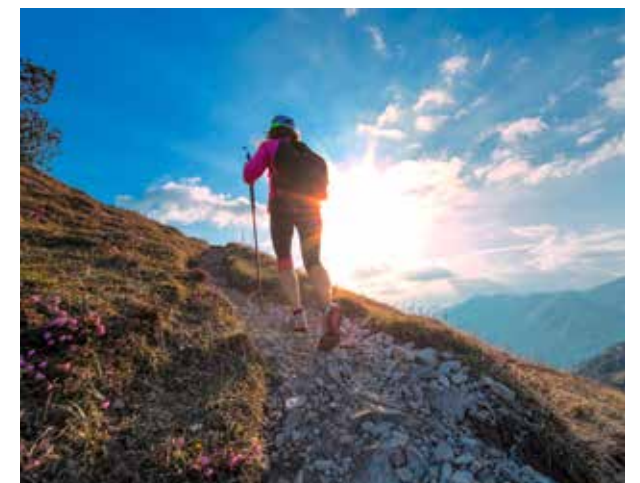
I usually climb with my buddies who are my former schoolmates. We take care of each other and it's a lot more fun.

6. What are the things that you must bring?

Lots of water and high-energy solid foods. I like to bring a simple snack of boiled potato and our local hoecakes. Ropes, knife and a lighter are useful, especially when climbing at night. Proper sports attire, insect repellent, a first aid kit, a hat and sunscreen are also important.

7. Recount a memorable experience.

Once I went hunting for caterpillar fungus – it's an herb that looks like a caterpillar – with my buddies on a mountain about 5,000 metres above sea level. There was a 30-metre long, 30-centimetre wide trail on the cliff which was the only access to the mountain peak. We had to crawl carefully to get through the trail. Even though the temperature was low, I was dripping with sweat while passing through the trail. Definitely not for the faint-hearted!





Bonding Through Travel



Travelling has become a popular way for parents to bond with their children. Parents are willing to spend on what they feel is important in bringing the family together so as to create precious memories and shared experiences. Trends show that parents are choosing to vacation in countries laden with culture, in hopes of exposing their children (and even themselves) to something new. They want to disconnect from technology to physically bond through fun and exploration of the great outdoors.

Apart from venturing out, there are families who indulge in the facilities of their choice accommodation. Hence, they ensure that their pick includes a wide range of exciting activities.

At **Angsana resorts**, immerse in the endless choice of family activities that is multi-generational – for the young and young at heart. Our programmes are designed for families to experience fun, relaxation and adventure together. Families who enjoy aquatic activities can jump into the splashing array of water sports such as snorkelling, jet skiing or fishing. Your children can experience catching different kinds of fish and learn scientific facts about marine life.

All kids are also invited to join the Kids Club activities. Using a Kids Passport presented upon check-in, they can have friendly competition in activities around the resort and receive prizes for completing them. At some resorts, parents can also take their children on a relaxing fireflies tour at night or visit a turtle conservation centre to inspire them to care for the environment. Families can also go on a nature walk to discover unique flora and fauna or join a tree or coral planting activity.

Treat your children to a holiday at our resorts. Let's make our bonding time unforgettable.

BODY DETOX? TRY DIGITAL DETOX.

We are more connected than ever before. Imagine, the alarm from your phone wakes you and you check your messages in bed. As you get ready, you turn on your music app. Throughout the day, you are on the computer and phone interchangeably. Your phone is your diary, beeping you reminders.

Being away from the digital world allows a mental time-out. You can unwind, appreciate the present, and refocus. There is no hurry – heart calm, mind free and mood relaxed. Wake up to the rhythmic sounds of nature. Watch the sun rise. Learn to cook a new dish, take nature walks, or have a picnic. Drop your worries and enjoy new discoveries undocumented by social media. We tend to forget how things were before the digital age but we have to strike a balance and not be consumed by the convenience of technology.

Unwind and be our guest

If you are feeling bogged down by routine – escape to our resorts. Be captivated by the sea views and greenery (which look way better than the images on your screens) and let our chefs wow you with signature dishes. Try bird-watching with a guide, practice yoga, or visit our gallery lined with artisanal products from the local community.

Soak in the pool to melt any digital-induced stress. Let our spa therapists untangle the knots in your back and shoulders from hours hunched over a computer. Plug out from the digital world and plug into a rejuvenating experience.

5 tips for a digital detox cleanse

1. Start small with a 24-hour period without your digital devices.
2. Inform your family and friends about your intention lest they try to contact you.
3. Plan activities to accomplish so you will not be tempted to switch on your devices.
4. You may feel unease at first. Let it pass.
5. Make some changes when you log on again, such as limiting hours online to unsubscribing from junk mail.



MADE BY HAND, WOVEN WITH HEART



The beauty of craft, is in its connection. Traditional craft weaves heritage, stories and people together, bridging cultural differences within a diversified landscape.

Continuing with our commitment towards sustainability, we worked with 15 artisans from the Hang Auan Group, who are currently in their third generation to incorporate a traditional weaving technique using natural palm tree fibre to present our newest line of travel accessories.

Palm tree fibre, a sustainable and environmentally friendly material, was first used to make fishing nets for fishermen in Southern Thailand before it was replaced by the nylon fishing nets. As makers gradually shifted to produce nylon fishing nets, the art of palm leaf weaving dwindled and is presently only practised by a small group of local artisans.

In collaboration with Supachai, a Thai designer and the artisans from the Hang Auan Group, we hope to reignite the art of palm leaf weaving by creating stylish, relevant travel accessories such as hats and

tote bags that are suitable for everyday use. Through this collaboration, we seek not only to provide the artisans with a sustainable source of income but to also shed light and preserve, the unique culture and traditional skills passed down through the generations.

Despite having a small production team behind this launch, each hand-woven piece is a testament of the maker's dedication to details and their commitment towards the legacy of their traditions.

We believe in celebrating time-honoured skills while empowering the communities we work with. Each product in this collection has travelled from their hands to yours, and we hope that this journey continues with you.

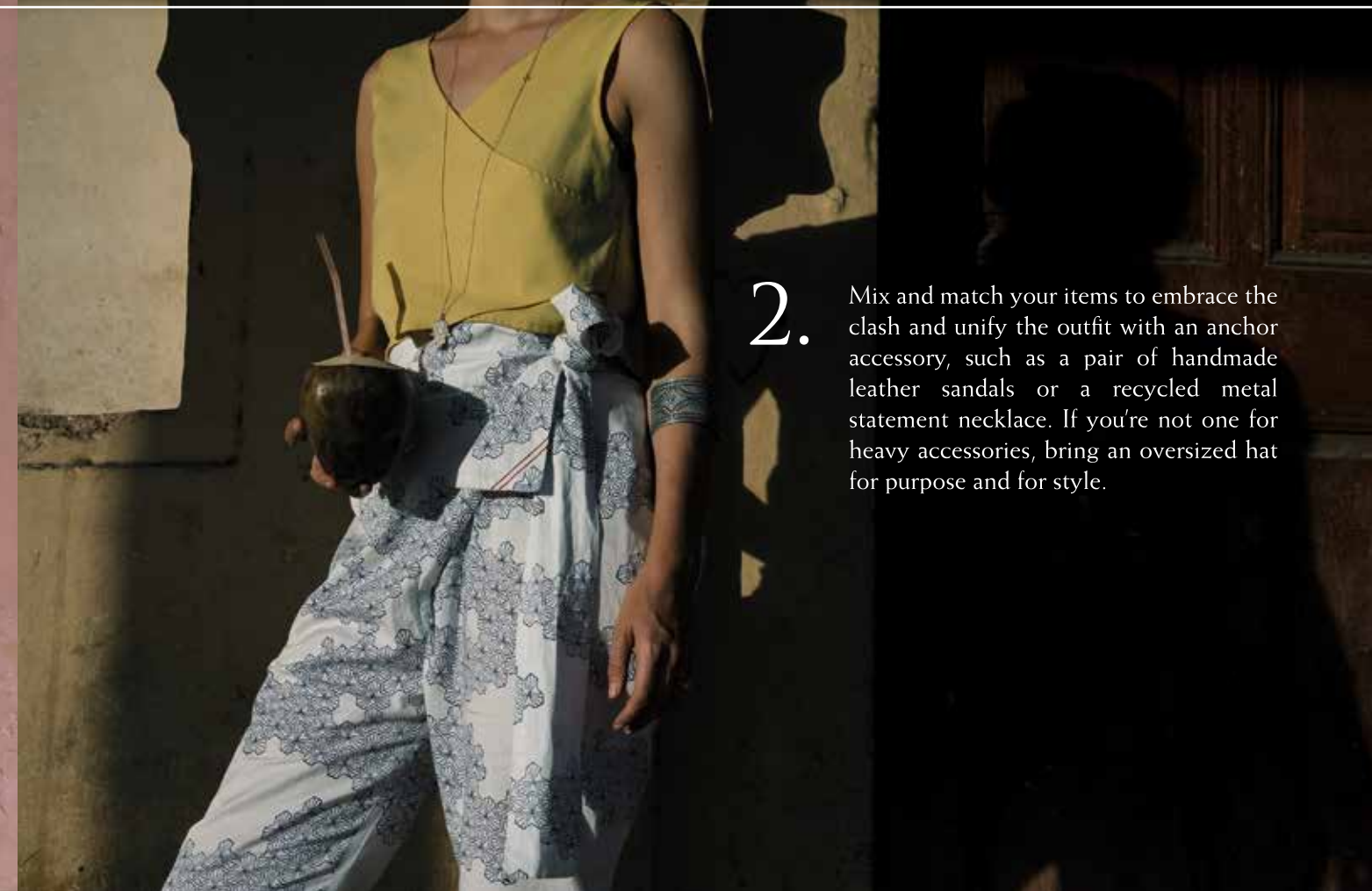
This collection of travel accessories can be purchased at the Banyan Tree Retail Galleries at Banyan Tree properties located in Bangkok, Macau, Seychelles, Phuket and Ungasan.

FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

From a fashion blogger in New York to a photojournalist in Lagos - individuals across different cultures and continents are finding commonality in the expression of who they are in what they wear. The beauty of this is in its novelty, the idea that there is a connection between us and our clothes, and it proudly inspires the truth that individuality is something worth embracing and celebrating.

MATTER is a socially motivated brand connecting rural textile artisans with urban designers to create travel wear with stories to tell. Their mission is to make connected clothing - pieces carrying handcrafted grace in each thread and cultural heritage in their colours and shapes.

From pants to jumpsuit, everything is made with flexible closures, like wraps and adjustable buttons - created entirely with the philosophy of freedom of movement in mind. Emphasising comfort and versatility, without sacrificing style. As you go on your everyday commutes or longer sojourns, there's nary a landscape we don't see these fitting. Here are some looks for inspiration:



2. Mix and match your items to embrace the clash and unify the outfit with an anchor accessory, such as a pair of handmade leather sandals or a recycled metal statement necklace. If you're not one for heavy accessories, bring an oversized hat for purpose and for style.

1. Layering your look is an essential when travelling, especially as you move from the summer heat in the city to breezy nights by the beach. Go beyond the functionality of layering and enhance your outfit with the pieces you put on. The key is to create contrast and movement; mix up your hemlines, slip on a cardigan, or stick to a classic jumpsuit.



3. Less is more. The easiest way to pair a bold print is to keep it simple with a basic top and let your pants do the talking. Complement the outfit with a pop of color, and go from day to night in a red lip or statement accessories. Don't worry about being overly bold and let your personality shine through your outfit.

GALLERY

Product Revamp



Since 1994, Banyan Tree has built havens of rest and rejuvenation that advocate a return to nature and the human touch. Each of our environmentally responsible destinations showcase the distinctive culture of the regions they are nestled in, treating travellers to a stay that not only benefits their well-being, but empowers local communities and their trades.

In addition to creating retreats with a sense of place, we champion retailing with a difference and celebrate products with origin and voice. Established in 1994, our Gallery connects indigenous artisans with a worldwide audience, while our botanical blends carry the heritage of traditional Asian remedies and the rich narrative of the locales they are inspired by. Developed by our Academy and crafted with meticulously sourced herbs and spices from nature's own apothecary, they infuse every personal oasis with the romance of travel.

As a responsible retailer, we aligned our commitment to conserve the environment:

- To minimise any unnecessary packaging and waste, bottles are made from PET and PETG recyclable plastics and coloured in the signature green of Banyan Tree.
- Accent bottles have an embossed relief of the hanging roots motif, as adapted from the actual Banyan Tree planted at Banyan Tree Phuket – our first resort property.
- Fabric wraps that replace paper gift wrappers and carrier tote bags are all made from plastic bottles so that they are more durable for guests to reuse in their daily lives.
- Reformulated products contain improved ingredients and phased out colourants - as seen in the new Thai Chamanard collection, it is even infused with natural argan oil to nourish the skin from head to toe. The bath & body products are available in sizes perfect for travel as well as for home use too.

Whether it's reinvigorating your mind, body, or soul, we hope you will fall in love with taking care of yourself all over again. The new collections will be available on essentials.banyantree.com and in Banyan Tree retail outlets from August 2017 onwards.

EMBRACING THE ENVIRONMENT WITH OUR GUESTS

Banyan Tree was founded with the core value of driving sustainable development. As a global hospitality group operating in diverse locations, Banyan Tree's concept of sustainability seeks to create long term value for multiple stakeholders and destinations.

Driven by this ethos, Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts has created various sustainability initiatives such as coral planting, turtle conservation, and visiting schools to conduct activities such as English lessons, singing, dancing and games. What's more? Guests are invited to participate and have been actively doing so – their heart for the environment and people are truly impressive!

Banyan Tree Samui, Banyan Tree Ungasan, Bali, Laguna Lăng Cô and Banyan Tree Bintan:

Guests visiting schools and conducting lessons and games for the children.



Angsana Ihuru, Angsana Velavaru and Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru in Maldives:

Guests helping out in coral planting efforts.

Laguna Bintan and Laguna Phuket:

Guests joining in releasing turtles that were under the care of our Marine Conservation Labs. The turtles are released when they are old enough to care for themselves while at sea.



Find out how you can play your part at www.banyantreeglobalfoundation.com.



EMPOWERING TODAY'S YOUTHS

Banyan Tree's sustainability efforts include nurturing young adults through an internship programme – equipping them with skills and ensuring they are able to contribute within their communities.

Laguna Bintan's Learning and Development department reported that 580 interns and trainees from 2013 to 2016 consisted of 555 post-graduates and students from university and high school, and 25 management trainees. On average, more than 100 students join Laguna Bintan's internship programme every year.

The Internship

The internship spans over three to six months, and one-and-a-half years for the management trainee programme. Students' accommodation, meals, and transportation (from their dormitories to the resort and back) are covered, and they receive allowance as well. Their performances are evaluated monthly, with written feedback provided by their supervisors.

The Impact

Many internship alumni have received great career opportunities, with some earning positions within Banyan Tree Group. Faisal Fazar interned with Banyan Tree Bintan in 2015, and graduated from Indonesia University of Education (Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia). He is currently working at Banyan Tree Ungasan, Bali as a Resort Host.



"It was a great experience for me. I interned in the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Department at Banyan Tree Bintan and learnt that it's not just about the resort's operations and service excellence, but also being responsible and caring for the local community and environment. I help in the sustainability programmes – and even organise some – and design the CSR notice board. I learn to make executive decisions, manage my time well, manage people and maintain professionalism. I was honoured to receive the title of Best Trainee (Front of House) at the end of my internship and I am very thankful for the chance given to me to excel and realise my potential." - Faisal Fazar



GOING PINK TO RAISE AWARENESS

Every October, Singapore's Breast Cancer Foundation (BCF), a non-profit organisation with the mission to eradicate breast cancer as a life-threatening disease, carries out Breast Cancer Awareness Month to shed light on a disease that affects 1 in 11 women during their lives. From a social movement to signature activities, BCF hopes to inspire, educate, empower and help transform breast cancer awareness into breast cancer action. In support of this movement, Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts partnered with BCF in 2016 to raise funds, creating special turn-down gifts that guests received upon choosing to participate in the cause. With that, they managed to collect a total of USD\$25,000.

Onward to Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2017, the Group will be continuing its support and partnership with BCF Singapore, with hopes of reaching out to an even wider audience.

Taking action

Hotel guests can participate in the cause, donating USD\$2 (Banyan Tree) and USD\$1 (Angsana) to receive a specially-designed turn-down gift as a token of appreciation – a pink sand-filled turtle (Banyan Tree) or starfish (Angsana) created by Banyan Tree Gallery and Banyan Tree Global Foundation. Banyan Tree Group will then match the total amount donated by guests dollar for dollar.

Find out how you can play your part at www.banyantreeglobalfoundation.com.



Angsana Corfu in Greece, opening 2018, will be the first Angsana hotel in Europe. Corfu is well-known for its sandy beaches, charming villages and scenic countryside.

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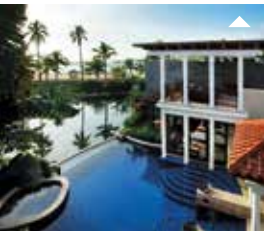


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A true modern-man playground, Royale Pavilion by Banyan Tree is strategically located in Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia. It is highly accessible to key attractions and shopping areas in the city. Opening 2018.



Banyan Tree Bodrum is the first Banyan Tree in Turkey located on a hidden cape in Yalıkavak, Bodrum. Opening 2019.

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Angsana Riads Blanc
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Riad Zitoun Jdid, Medina
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Angsana Riads Lydines
N.45 Derb Abda, Kasbah
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