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On The Cover : Banyan Tree Bintan Photographer : Nicholas Fong "WE ARE PROUD THAT FROM THE VERY BEGINNING WHEN WE STARTED BANYAN TREE, THE ETHOS OF EMBRACING THE ENVIRONMENT AND EMPOWERING PEOPLE HAS BEEN AN INALIENABLE VALUE THAT DEFINED THE WAY WE BUILD, OPERATE, ENGAGE AND INSPIRE."

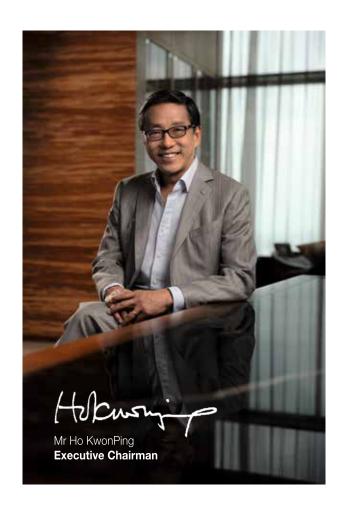
We constantly remind ourselves that the international presence we earn simply opens more doors of opportunities to be change-makers. With these open doors, we have a platform for our sustainability ethos to be put into practice – allowing us to embrace the environment and empower the people. As we step into 2018, we look forward to even more sustainability efforts to be established – not just as a Group but at our hotels and resorts where guests can actively participate and make a difference with us under our Stay For Good programme.

Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts will step into new territories in 2018. We will open our first-ever property in Europe – Angsana Corfu – situated on a beautiful island off the coast of the picture-perfect Greece. China also sees to an expansion, with Banyan Tree Anji, Angsana Xishuangbanna, Angsana Zhuhai Phoenix Bay, and Dhawa Jinshanling. Within Southeast Asia, we will open two properties in Kuala Lumpur, Banyan Tree Kuala Lumpur and Pavilion Hotel by Banyan Tree situated in the heart of the city. We also open the second of four resorts in Cuba, Angsana Cayo Santa Maria in 2018.

In this issue of Under The Banyan Tree, we will introduce three upcoming hotels and resorts, and we will also venture into defining sanctuary – diving deep into the feelings evoked as guests step into our Banyan Tree properties; beyond the experience of complete privacy and refined services.

We will be introducing Rangers' Club, our new programme that will give children aged 4 to 11 an inviting space to learn, grow and make friends. They also get to explore with their five senses and learn about sustainability and the importance of it. Besides delighting in pure edutainment, the little ones will receive prizes once they complete a set of activities, motivating them to persevere and build their confidence.

As we continue to grow our brands as a Group, we aspire to forge beautiful memories and inspire our guests and associates to create a bigger sustainability footprint and impact across the globe.





SEYCHELLES Eco-friendly Marathon

25 February

Runners of the Seychelles Eco-Friendly Marathon will set off from Beau Vallon at 7am, covering Northern and North Eastern areas of the main island of Mahe, as well as its capital, Victoria. This event was created to encourage an active lifestyle and appreciation for the beauty of nature, as well as to unify the people of Seychelles and the visitors.

Banyan Tree Seychelles, Seychelles



BANGBANG FESTIVAL

5 March

Bangbang Festival (also called Lantern Festival) is one of the grand festivals for the Naxi people in Lijiang. It is celebrated during the Lunar New Year period, with flower exhibitions and religion and folklore performances around town. The Naxi people will release lanterns along the river in the evening to mark new beginnings and good wishes for the new year.

Banyan Tree Lijiang, China



GNAOUA WORLD MUSIC FESTIVAL

June

Morocco's biggest summer festival, the Gnaoua World Music Festival celebrates the music and arts of the Gnaouas (or Gnawas), promoting the ancestral and musical contribution of the Gnaoua people to the world. This fascinating festival has grown rapidly in popularity and now attracts close to 500,000 visitors over the course of the four-day event.

Angsana Riads Collection Morocco, Morocco



BOUN BANG FAI (ROCKET FESTIVAL)

May

As its English name suggests, this festival sees to the firing of 'rockets' made with bamboo right into the sky, a gesture to invite the rain. Leading up to this would be a series of festivities such as parades, song and dance performances and endless parties.

Maison Souvannaphoum Hotel, Laos



CHAMAREL SEVEN-COLOURED EARTH

The seven-coloured earth is a natural phenomenon and a prominent tourist attraction in Mauritius. It is a relatively small area of sand dunes comprising sand of seven distinct colours (red, brown, violet, green, blue, purple and yellow). If you mix the sand together, they will eventually settle into separate layers, each bit of sand rejoining its colour caste. The dunes are now protected by fences and visitors are not allowed in; only to observe from a distance.

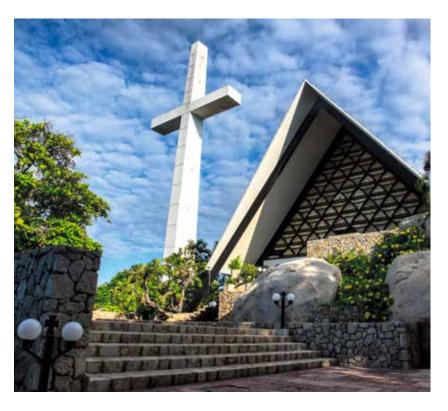
Angsana Balaclava Mauritius, Mauritius



BACH MA National Park

This beautiful national park stretches over some 40,000 unspoilt hectares, offering great hiking trails, waterfalls, a camp site and plenty of wildlife. Home to one of the most stunning stretches of jungle walk and mountain ranges in Central Vietnam, it is easily accessible and well-serviced by affordable tourist buses.

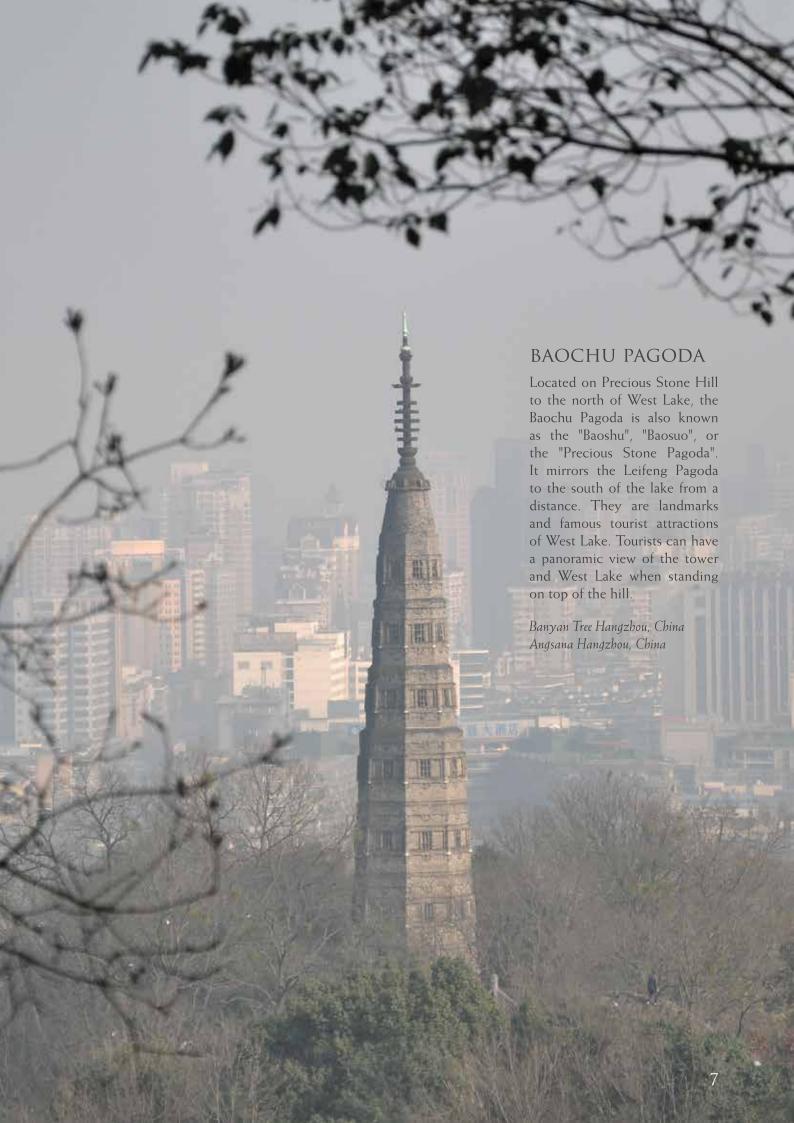
Banyan Tree Lăng Cô, Central Vietnam Angsana Lăng Cô, Central Vietnam



CHAPEL OF PEACE

Overlooking Acapulco Bay from the southern end, La Capilla de la Paz (The Chapel of Peace) offers visitors beautiful seaside views and a peaceful atmosphere. Many visitors are drawn to this highest point in Acapulco by the massive white cross, visible from almost anywhere in the city. The chapel's minimalistic setting and the surrounding gardens provide respite from the hustle and bustle of the city below.

Banyan Tree Cabo Marques, Mexico



BASK BENEATH SUNLIT CLOUDS

Angsana Corfu

An emerald jewel set in the azure Ionian Sea, Corfu is one of the most precious Greek Islands.

Its unique position, just off the country's west coast, gives Corfu a different climate and culture compared to the Aegean archipelagos to the east. Closer to the heel of Italy than to Athens, and previously ruled by the Romans and Venetians, Corfu has a distinctly Mediterranean outlook. With its rich history and stunning scenery, Corfu has become a hot favourite among international travellers over the years.



The ancient fortified town of Corfu is a UNESCO World Heritage site, and just 12km south of this historic port lays Angsana Corfu, a sensitive, low-rise development overlooking the Straits of Corfu, near the quaint traditional Corfiot village of Benitses. Situated on a hill, the main resort areas stretch along the sickle-shaped island's exquisite east coast which is blessed with naturally sheltered harbours and golden beaches.

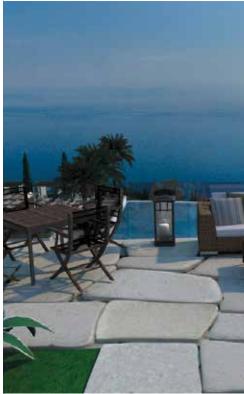
Guests can choose from a selection of 159 luxury hotel rooms and suites, which overlooks either the green hills or turquoise sea. There are also 40 sublime bungalows featuring private pools and outdoor sun decks, allowing guests to unwind in a magical Mediterranean seclusion amidst the olive groves.

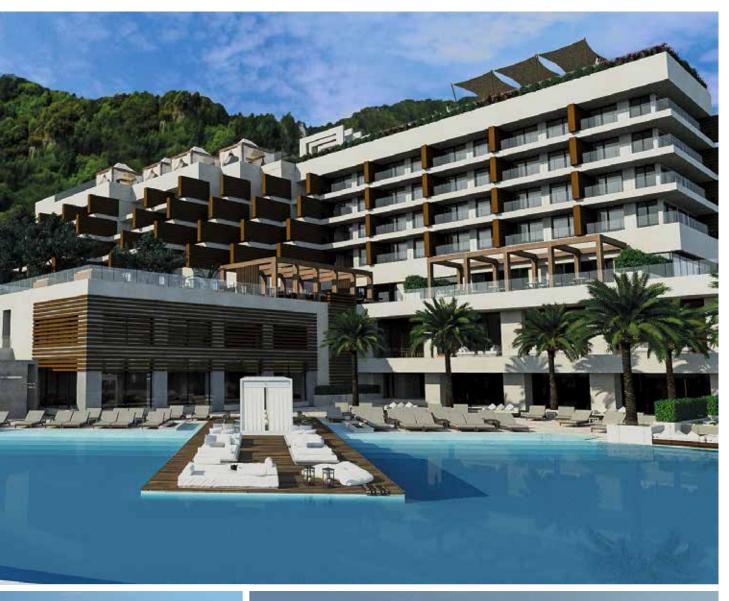
The resort's expansive spa is the largest spa and wellness facility in Corfu, and delivers serene sensory experiences, while the Sky Lounge provides the perfect base to chill out in the heat of the day – with a magnificent view of the sea. Other bar options are available, from a juice bar, pool bar to a cigar lounge, ensuring that guests have an extensive selection of places to relax. When it comes to dining, guests can experience gastronomic Greek, Mediterranean and Asian flavours while immersed in romanticised atmospheres.

Visitors wanting to sample Corfu's ancient culture have plenty of opportunities for exploration. The earliest reference to the island can be found in a text dating from 1,300 BCE, and the Archaeological Museum of Corfu displays many local treasures. Alternatively, a simple stroll around the ancient streets and fortresses of Corfu Town is richly rewarding, while a wider tour of the island will uncover a tapestry of treasures, from curious coves and cliff-top monasteries to Venetian villages and Roman ruins.

For guests coveting a Mediterranean getaway, Angsana Corfu is the perfect retreat destination where they can sweep the treasured island and embark on a historic adventure.













In the remote borderlands where China and Southeast Asia converge, Xishuangbanna is a land of incredible natural beauty and ethnic diversity.

Its name, which roughly translates as "twelve-thousand rice fields", reflects the ethnic heritage of the local Dai people – the Thais' northern cousins – and 13 other ethnic minority groups. For tongue-tied international visitors, Xishuangbanna is often simply abbreviated to "Banna".

This flourishing, mountainous region is home to lush rainforests, indigenous hill-tribes, Buddhist temples and China's last remaining population of wild elephants. The region is also fed by the mighty

Mekong River – or the Lancang as it is known in China – which flows through Xishuangbanna on its journey south to Thailand and Indochina.

These cultural characteristics make Xishuangbanna a highly fascinating place to visit. Travellers wanting to discover this sequestered beauty can now do so from the comfort of Angsana Xishuangbanna.

Situated within the Horon Monbala Royal Southeast Asian Botanical Garden Resort Zone and an hour's drive from the city of Jinghong, Angsana Xishuangbanna is a spa retreat set upon the area's natural hot springs.







Within its garden setting, the resort features an extensive collection of 423 rooms, suites and villas, ranging from 33m² to 239m², with multi-bedroom options and private pools. There are also five restaurants and bars to choose from, such as Market Place which serves pan-Asian delights, and Chun Fung which specialises in local Yunnan and Dai cuisine.

Guests can unwind in the resort's fitness and entertainment areas, but true indulgence lies in the resort's sublime health and wellness facilities. The Hot Spring Monbala Xishuangbanna complex encompasses 21 outdoor hot spring pools, allowing guests to bathe in the warm, mineral-packed waters

and harness their healing qualities; as the Dai people have done for generations. These ancient baths are complemented by Angsana's state-of-the-art spa, where guests can enjoy a wealth of soothing remedies, from traditional massages to beauty treatments.

Xishuangbanna may seem like a remote outpost of China, but throughout the centuries it has been a popular crossroad of Asia. It has created a unique landscape and way of life where different cultures are so perfectly blended. Travellers who adore and yearn for more than a taste of culture that excites and bears rich history will be in for a treat when they stay at Angsana Xishuangbanna.







In the mountains north of Beijing, the Great Wall zigzags its way across the landscape, with ancient battlements and watchtowers swinging from peak to peak before disappearing over the horizon.

One of the most rewarding parts of this iconic landscape to visit is Jinshanling. The well-restored sections of the wall provide a deep insight into ancient Chinese history. Located about 130km from the bustling streets of Beijing, the Jinshanling Great Wall dates back to the 1300s; constructed during the Ming Dynasty. Taking its name from the Jinshanling Mountains upon which it was built, this spectacular section runs for just 10.5km and features 67 watchtowers, three beacon towers and five passes, which vary in terms of design and construction.

Giving this ancient landscape a modern twist is Dhawa Jinshanling, a stylish hotel that combines cultural elements with state-of-the-art amenities, including the area's only spa. The hotel's 202 cocoon rooms and suites, plus two impressive villas, offer views of the landscaped gardens or mountains beyond. Guests can compare their Great Wall experiences at The Nest, a communal space where panoramic windows showcase the surrounding hills and evoke a desire for deeper discovery.

Guests who embark on hikes are rewarded with stunning views at every corner, and photography-enthusiasts are provided with the perfect setting to capture dramatic images of the UNESCO World Heritage Site and sublime sunsets. The highest point of the wall can be accessed by cable car, which offers amazing new angles to soak up these natural and manmade wonders.

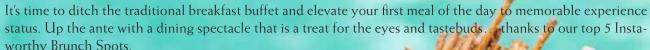
After a hike, guests can look forward to a time of rejuvenation at Dhawa Spa, indulging in a massage or manicure and pedicure. Those who have captured photographs on their hike and would like to share them can look forward to showcasing their best shots at the hotel's gallery, and be inspired by other photographers' work.

For travellers wanting to indulge their passion for cultural exploration and discover what lies beyond the wall, Dhawa Jinshanling brings a contemporary edge to this legendary landscape.

Dhawa Jinshanling opens in May 2018

TOP 5 INSTA-WORTHY BRUNCH SPOTS

When total relaxation takes over, time seems to pass at a luxuriously slow pace: one glorious minute dissolves into the next and days last forever. A lazy morning, is an indulgence we can all revel in while on vacation. And what better way to start the day than enjoying a delicious breakfast or brunch in a beautiful setting?









#BreakfastGoals

Emerge from a restful slumber and hop straight into your pool villa for a refreshing morning dip before enjoying breakfast by the lagoon. With nothing to see but 50 shades of blue in every direction, a dreamy Instagram snap is guaranteed.

Banyan Tree Mayakoba - Mexico





#BeachyBrunch

Unfurl a picnic blanket on the amazing white shores and enjoy your morning coffee as gentle waves lap at your toes. Nothing says paradise like a snap of beachy bliss.

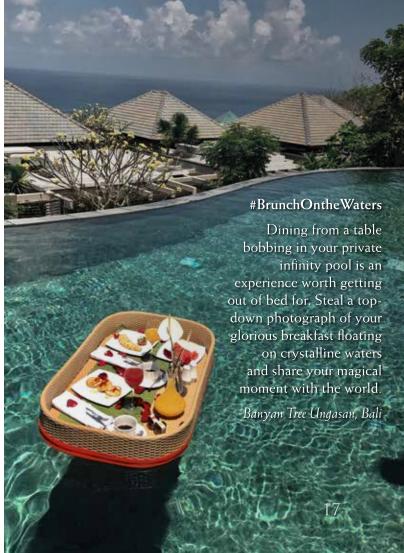
Banyan Tree Seychelles - Seychelles



Awake and absorb the tranquil charm of Mother Nature while brunching on the mountain edge. As the mist rises from the mountains verdant greenery and casts a photogenic spell over your brunch time, be quick to snap and share it.

Banyan Tree Jiuzhaigou - China







One of the most popular street foods in Vietnam, this salad can be found at every corner. This is one of the things you cannot miss in Vietnam. The base of the dish is rice paper cut into strips and kept dry. The flavour of the dish is packed with fresh Vietnamese herbs in the mix, a squeeze of sour lime juice and hard-boiled quail eggs. All of the ingredients meld together creating a unique taste. Custom Bánh Tráng Tr n is a street salad suitable for anyone because it is affordable and delicious. This dish originated from Southern Vietnam, before it became popular with Saigon street vendors.

Ingredients:

•	100g	Rice paper
•	150g	Young mango
•	70g	Dried beef

Dressing

•	1 tbsp	Oil
•	1 tbsp	Sate chilli sauce
•	20g	Chopped lemongrass
•	10g	Chilli
•	10g	Shallots
•	5g	Garlic
•	1 tsp	Soy sauce
•	10g	White sugar

• Juice from 1 lime

Dried beef

•	100g	Beef rump
•	2 tbsp	Soya sauce
•	5g	White sesame seed
•	5g	White sugar snow
•	80g	Lemongrass

Garnish

Garmon		
•	2	Quail eggs – soft boiled
•	15g	Dried shallots
•	20g	Dried small shrimp
•	20g	Roasted peanuts
•	5g	Vietnamese basil
•	5g	Vietnamese Spearmint
•	5g	Coriander

Instructions:

Dressing

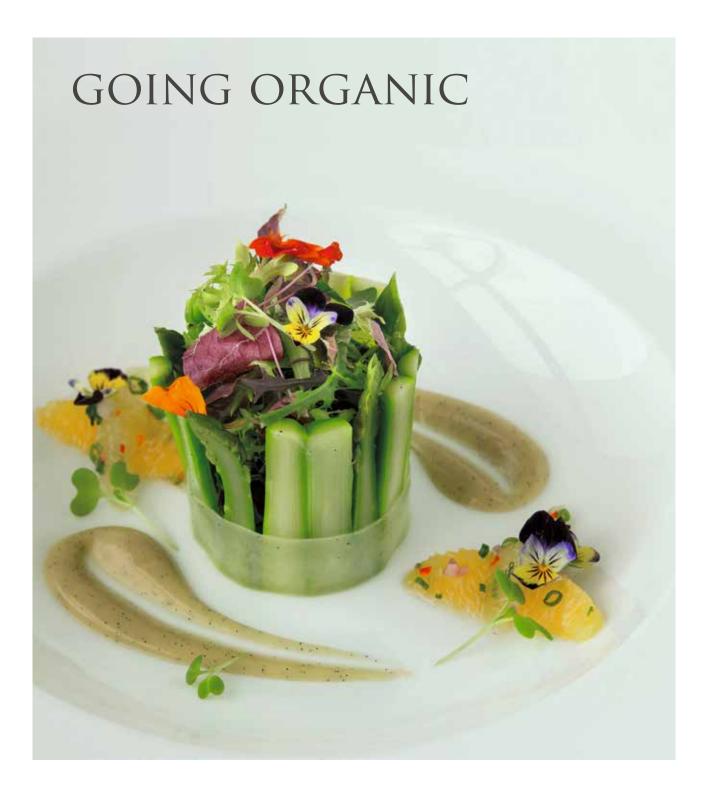
- 1. Chop shallot, garlic, red chilli and lemongrass into fine pieces.
- 2. Fry them in oil to create a sate chilli sauce and add some salt for seasoning.
- 3. In the mixing bowl, put sate chilli sauce, soya sauce, sugar and lime juice together and stir until they are mixed together.

Dried Beef

- 1. Marinate beef with lemongrass, soya sauce, sugar and five-spice powder.
- 2. Boil beef at low heat to make it tender.
- 3. Once beef is cooked, shred the beef and sprinkle sesame seeds.

Salad

- 1. Cut rice paper into small pieces 5cm long and
- 2. Boil quail egg, peel shell and cut egg into half.
- 3. Cut green mango.
- 4. In a mixing bowl, add rice paper, choice dressing and green mango. Mix gently.
- 5. Add half of the dried beef, dried baby shrimps, onions and peanuts into the salad; the rest will be used as garnish.
- 6. Place the salad on a platter and add herbs, dried shallot, and the rest of the dried beef, dried baby shrimps, roasted peanuts and quail egg as garnish.
- 7. Serve the salad cold.



Organic products are increasing in popularity year after year, as consumers are choosing to place more value on quality over pricing to achieve a healthy lifestyle. From fruits, vegetables, meat, milk and even candies, people are starting to wipe these products off the shelves, to ensure that they are feeding their bodies right.

Organic foods are healthier as they have more nutrients that are beneficial; with no use of harmful chemicals in the growing, harvesting and production. Going organic helps to preserve our ecosystems, agricultural diversity and reduce

pollution. This in turn creates a sustainable future for many generations to come.

With our ethos of conserving the environment, many of our hotels have started having their very own organic gardens — and very successful ones indeed. The fruits and vegetables grown are not just used by our restaurants, but also by Banyan Tree Spa and Angsana Spa for the spa treatment ingredients. In addition, cooking classes also make use of the harvest, allowing guests to experience the goodness first-hand. This enforces our practice of only using fresh local produce, with no compromise.



With a humble 50m² plot of land, Banyan Tree Chongqing Beibei planted six different types of vegetables and herbs such as cucumber, rosemary and okra.



Banyan Tree Huangshan harvested pumpkins, lettuce, eggplants and long beans.

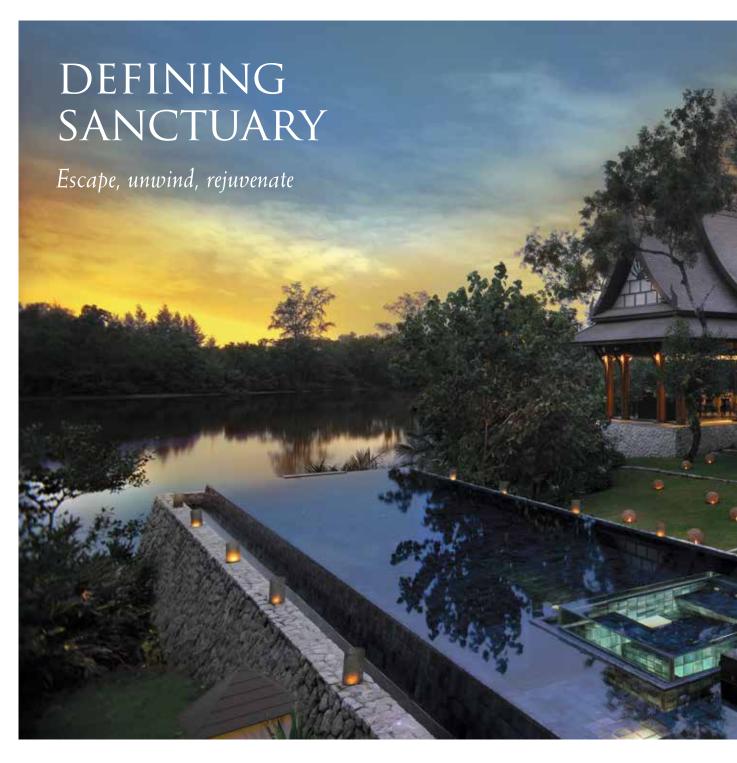


Laguna Bintan's spice garden blossomed and the associates managed to harvest sweet basil, hot basil, long beans, chillies, pandan leaves, mint leaves, curry leaves, lemongrass, eggplants and ginger.



Banyan Tree Ungasan, Bali's staff collecting all the fresh veggies and spices from their 60m² garden.



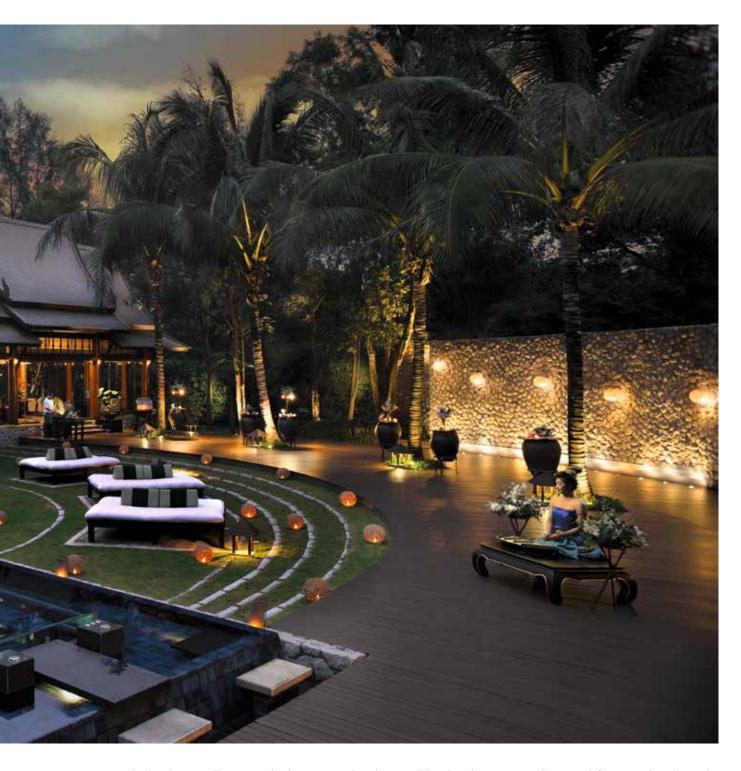


So vast in stature is the sacred banyan tree, in its native India, it has long been synonymous with the notion of sanctuary. Its sprawling canopy a welcoming sight to weary travellers requiring respite from the blazing sun, and its hollow core a cocoon for wildlife seeking protection from the jungle beyond.

Just like the majestic banyan tree, sanctuary to Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts is more than just a safe place to retreat to; it is about the state of quietude where your mind and body connects with your environment and thinks no further than the present moment. It is a place where you seek to flow with the rhythm of rest and

know that you are afar from pressure or stress. This is when you feel your body refreshed and immersed in an abundance of gratitude for the life you get to live and the natural wonders you get to see.

Science proves that taking a vacation can improve sleep patterns, reduce blood pressure and decrease stress levels. It would seem pressing pause on life is now not so much a luxury but, dare we say it, a necessity. Indulge in the simplicity of sipping an aromatic coffee while soaking up the sea view, meandering across powdery white sand during a relaxing stroll, discovering local delicacies, or taking a refreshing dip



in a crystal clear lagoon. Escaping the hectic grind and retreating to an unexplored pocket of the world need not be a daydream.

With over 40 hotels and resorts globally, finding your sanctuary has never been easier. Our spacious private villas (many featuring a private pool) can be found in beautiful locations where stunning views are guaranteed. Wherever in the world you choose to recharge, an authentic, memorable experience awaits and our attentive yet discreet service will take care of your every whim.

Wander the ancient alleys and fragrant, heady souks of Morocco, explore the turquoise waters, coral reefs, and pristine beaches of the Maldives or Mauritius, or soak up the natural beauty and emerald-green jungles of Vietnam, Thailand, Bintan, Bali and more.

When the exploring is over, retreat to our award-winning spa for a well-deserved pampering. Rejuvenate your mind, body and soul by finding your sanctuary and visiting it often – after all, SPA is Self-Pampering Art. It is time to exhale that breath you did not realise you were holding...

Strides Today For Leaps Tomorrow

The idiom "as you sow, so shall you reap" has never held more truth than it does in the case of our children. Show them love, motivation and encouragement today and see them grow up to be strong, confident and fearless individuals ready to take on the world tomorrow. This ethos does not have to apply merely to the confines of our homes or schools and can very easily find its way into our travels too. Holidays are a time when children, with their nimble bodies and sponge-like minds, pick up more than we realise. More often than not, travel truly is the best education.

Stories unfold at our hotels, where no guest is too big or too small, with the youngest guests often being the most important. Not afraid to have some family-tinged fun, we ensure that not only do parents and children have the holiday of a lifetime, but the children also go home equipped with a new life skill or two, while affording parents a chance to pull in some quality 'me time'.



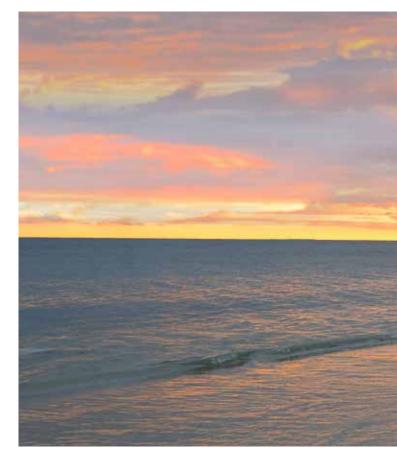




SUMMER: MAURITIUS

This little dot of paradise marooned in the Indian Ocean is home to sparkling waters, powdery white sand and captivating sunsets. Expect wafts of frangipani perfuming the air, dolphins and whales leaping over the crest of a wave, and plenty of activities – kite-surfing and hiking for the active, or reclining on the beach for the rest of us – to fill the gloriously slow days of island life. Though beautiful all year round, summer in Mauritius is intoxicating.

Stay: Angsana Balaclava Mauritius. Set in a secluded cove of Turtle Bay, our selection of stylish suites and villas with infinity pools form a tropical oasis you will not want to leave.



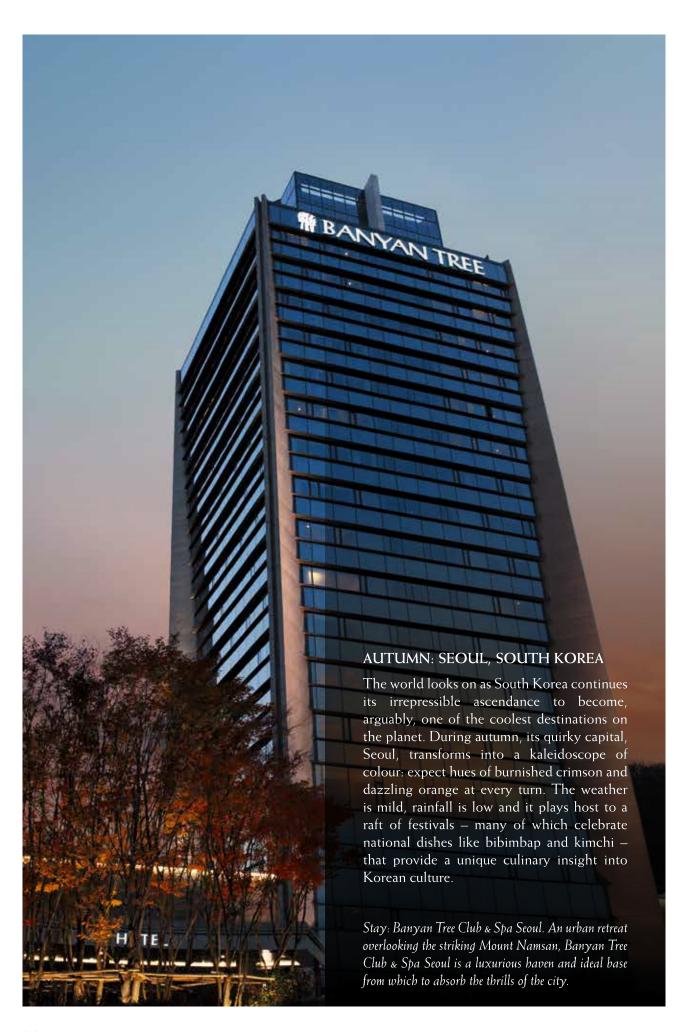


SPRING: MARRAKECH, MOROCCO

Steeped in history, tradition, and mint tea, Morocco is a land of sweeping desert, majestic mountains and bustling cities. Where Mediterranean and African influences blend to create a fascinating culture that embraces modernity while paying homage to its ancient roots. Best to avoid the ferocious summer sun and visit during spring when the landscape turns emerald and hiking conditions are ideal to explore the awe-inspiring Atlas mountains.

Stay: Angsana Riads Collection Morocco in Marrakech. Nestled in the labyrinthine Medina of Marrakech, the souks and teahouses of this ancient city are just beyond our front door.







BLOCKPRINTING: FROM PRINT TO PRODUCT

When MATTER started the journey towards sustainable craft three years ago, it was grounded on the instinct to bring the beauty of fabric stories to life in a way that was accessible, relatable, and desirable. Stepping into a universe of warp and weft, natural botanical dyes, heritage printing and weaving looms, we wanted to celebrate the building blocks that connect all of us – stories, craft and values.

Every piece of craft is an extension of its maker's life work to master a skill encompassing their own unique signature. When we know the care that goes into a product that takes 120 days to make, passing through more than 10 steps and 20 people in its journey, we understand the love that has gone into it.

The craft of blockprinting was a medium created for storytelling: to record history and legacy. At the very heart of it, blockprinting holds still a moment in time. The heritage technique, in all its beauty, is a celebration of stories.



SOURCE AND ESSENTIALISE

Sourcing through heritage blocks in printing workshops for motifs with cultural stories and history, we work together with the block carvers to create modernised versions that still contained the essential stories and spirit.

CARVE

Beginning with slabs of sheesham wood, the design moves from pencil to block as the motif drawn onto tracing paper is repeated on the planed surface.

Using a hammer and chisel, every etch and cut carves out to reveal the final design - a process that lasts five days.

STEAM DYE

Before printing, the fabric is rolled onto a steam dryer to remove excess dye and ensure an even colouring. Left to dry on tall bamboo frames, the fabric hangs under the heat of the sun for three to four days.

COLOUR MIX

The colour master prepares the dyes for printing, mixing them to the right shade. Tiny holes are drilled into the blocks and stuffed with cotton to ensure an even dye application.

PRINT

Using their fingers to guide the distance between each design element, the artisans begin printing the motifs as they move down the table. Every block is placed left to right then slammed hard with their fist on the back of the handle to leave its mark on the fabric.

AIR DRY AND STEAM

After printing, the fabric is followed by a vigorous hand-beating to wash out traces of gum and fixing agents. The printed fabric is then left under the sun for six days to dry under a constant level of humidity and heat for a consistent finish.

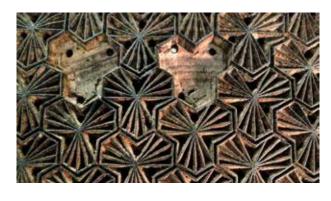
Steam wash and finish fixes the colour dyes and ensures there is no colour run in the final fabric. This process is repeated twice to colour-fast the fabric.

CUT AND STITCH

Working with a zero-waste design approach, patterns for the clothing are cut out then stitched together for the final product.

To translate a motif from digital to hand is to understand that industrial perfection does not exist in craft - and more importantly, it should not. The value of craft is in its making. It is the human elements — the slowness and intricacies of the process and the thought behind every design — that make it meaningful.













AROMAS FOR THE EVERYDAY

"Having control over what you smell makes the experience more enjoyable, it inspires you to take more time out for yourself to focus on your well-being."







SOUL Experiential Essential Oil Set



BLISS

Comprising Lavender, Orange, Bergamot and Cedarwood oils, BLISS offers an array of blends inspiring feelings of calm and comfort.

SOUL

Designed to cater to different moods, SOUL consists of rosewood, lavender, ylang ylang and cedarwood oils to create a medley of evocative, deep scents.

RISE

RISE includes lavender, grapefruit, orange and rosemary oils to create refreshing and soothing aromas that uplift the senses instantly.

The collection is available on essentials.banyantree.com, retailing at USD30.50 each.

R15E

Total Carting

The Experiential Essential Oil Set collection aspires to bridge a closer connection between you and scents, to take you on a journey featuring a scent curated personally by you. Designed with four essential oils in a kit, each set reflects a distinctive mood and benefit made for everyday living spaces. Grounded in our commitment to bring about experiences that enhance your well-being, this collection was created to inspire a wellness lifestyle that is meant and made to last.

In the month of August, Banyan Tree Gallery collaborated with Natalie Kay Smith – blogger of Sustainably Chic, who seeks to encourage the permanence of sustainability as a lifestyle, to share how her various scented blends is infused into different moments of her day. This collaboration is driven with the goal of encouraging a mindful, wellness-oriented lifestyle amidst the busy and making that experience a lasting, meaningful one.

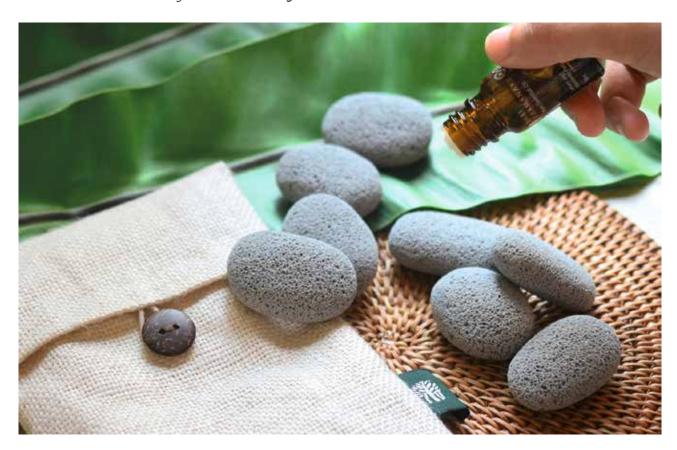
"What's been so enjoyable, for me, is being able to blend essential oils to create my very own scent. Having control over what you smell makes the experience more enjoyable, and inspires you to take more time out for yourself to focus on your well-being." Natalie recounts.

The Experiential Essential Oil Sets embodies our passion in addressing the timeless need for quality rest in versatile spaces, as each kit encapsulates the possibility of endless scents for different moods and benefits. The experience is different from purchasing a typical essential oil with one scent profile and benefits. Instead, it is an explorative journey of experimenting and creating different aromas from the union of various oils, and how it can enhance different moments in a day.

Beyond its physical benefits, aromatherapy is also an intimacy that speaks to our emotional wellness. We hope the philosophy of a slow and mindful lifestyle behind this collection grows into an intention in your everyday.

"Personally, I love the relaxing combination of Lavender and Bergamot at the end of the day and mixing Orange, Grapefruit and Rosemary to keep my senses going during the day. Sometimes the scent of lavender is exactly what I need for a good night's rest."

- Natalie, writer of Sustainably Chic.





A NEW Wellness Journey

Banyan Tree began its journey by building retreats of rest and rejuvenation, championing the ethos of embracing the environment and empowering the community. Every destination is designed with an intention to enhance your well-being. We strive to inspire a lifestyle interwoven with wellness, and that has served as our motivation behind our bath & body and aromatherapy collections - to create an oasis of calm wherever you are.

An integral part of our everyday well-being is the ingredients we put on our skin, which is the largest organ in our body. Our shower gels, shampoos, conditioners, lotions and massage oils used in our resorts and spas are created with

the combined expertise of our over 20-yearold award-winning Spa Academy and strategic research and laboratory partner in Thailand. We travel the globe to bring the best of nature home, researching the benefits of indigenous flowers, herbs and spices and combining them in a formula that is both good for the earth, and for you.

Not one to rest on our laurels, we recently undertook a two-year journey that went deep into the process of each product to ensure that our values of sustainability were embedded in every way, from the beginning of the product cycle at sourcing to how they are delivered and disposed of. We are proud to launch these newly-improved formulations and a brand new design and packaging that captures the brand's timeless essence and graceful Asian origins.

We believe in creating experiences that last, and hope that the reformulated bath & body and aromatherapy collections go beyond being a sensory treat for your body, to inspire moments of wellness in your every day.



THE REFORMULATION JOURNEY



Asian Wisdom: We emphasise ingredients such as Honey, Lotus and Jasmine Rice highlighted in the generational wisdom and practice of Asia, enhancing their active benefits by combining them with other complementary, result-driven formulations.

Quality Sourcing: We looked into the sourcing of each ingredient, increasing the amount of organic origin items that are ECOCERT-certified as well as ensuring that the base quality of each formulation was high, such as olive and coconut base oils. In gathering indigenous, locally-inspired ingredients from different parts of the world such as Thailand, Bhutan, Africa, Japan, France, and Northern Vietnam, we also seek to infuse time-honoured remedies from different traditions in our products.

A Natural Premium: We place an emphasis on being as natural as possible, which means eliminating all known harmful synthetics and replacing them with mainly naturally derived alternatives.

Our blends average 95% in natural origins, and are completely free of Parabens, Sodium Lauryl Sulfate (SLS), Sodium Laureth Sulfate (SLES), and are not tested on animals. We removed other synthetic ingredients such as colouring agents and unnecessary fragrances, replacing Ammonium Lauryl Sulfate (ALS) with plant or palm-derived combinations.

Sustainable Packaging: Committed to our ethos on sustainability, we have replaced all gift packaging with sustainable materials; designing fabric wraps woven from used plastic bottles, and gift boxes handmade in mulberry papers. Each bottle is also made from recyclable plastic and our product packaging uses 100% recycled, elemental chlorine-free papers.

Timeless Design: Inspired by the graceful curve of our Banyan Tree logo, the new bottle design takes an iconic yet timeless shape, and is embossed with the symbolic roots of the first banyan tree in our first flagship hotel, Banyan Tree Phuket.

Aromatherapy Moments: We believe in cultivating a mindful lifestyle, taking the time to care for your body and emotional wellness, hoping to inspire a Sanctuary For The Senses in the comfort of your own home, and the moments in between.

To support this, we have enhanced our travel aromatherapy offerings with over 20 new products using 100% pure essential oils, including aromatherapy balms, roll-on perfumes, and soy candles for travel and home.

New collections are available on essentials.banyantree.com

















Sustainability is something that Banyan Tree Group lives by, and the distance that the Group has gone thus far would not have been possible without the support, determination and drive of our many dedicated associates whom we call our Sustainability Champions. We reached out to our Group Director of Conservation Dr Steve Newman – who is continuously pushing to achieve greater milestones in the area of sustainability – and find out what truly drives him to champion this role; constantly empowering people and embracing the environment.

1) What drew you into wanting to protect and care for the environment?

Loving nature. As a child, I was curious about everything in nature. I was fortunate to have travelled a lot while growing up, canoeing the Amazon, hiking the Alps, diving coral reefs and exploring the Maasai Mara.

2) Who is your inspiration when it comes to conserving the environment?

Earliest inspiration – Gerald Durrell. In later years, David Attenborough and Charles Darwin inspired me in my understanding of the environment and the diversity of life.

3) What was the first sustainability initiative that you were involved in?

Establishing a reef-monitoring project! I was asked to develop conservation initiatives, and I designed and implemented an annual reef-monitoring programme in the Maldives – tracking the health of the corals and fish on the reef.

4) What is your favourite part of this role?

Creating new conservation projects in amazing destinations, strategically planning and driving sustainability initiatives that will have a positive impact on the environment and peoples' lives; also, around nature, learning new things and sharing my passion and enthusiasm with people from different walks of life!

5) Name three of your favourite sustainability initiatives.

1. Working in the marine and conservation labs.

This was a pioneering approach to include within tourism, providing opportunities to engage with guests resulting having marine biologists in the Maldives!

- 2. Citizen science. It allows people from all walks of life to engage, learn and contribute basic data. Guests get to record what they see using picture guides and the information helps in our research and understanding.
- 3. Building bridges between different sectors such as the public, universities and international NGOs. We recently collaborated with the Government of the Maldives and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) to propose the establishment of a national biosphere reserve. I also drafted a national research strategy that will guide research across the Maldives.

6) Is your family as enthusiastic about environment conservation as you are? What is their reaction?

Growing up I was always encouraged to pursue whatever I was passionate about. There's little surprise from my family that I'm doing what I do, having mostly lived on small tropical islands since 1999.

7) If you could tell the world about conservation, what will you say?

The planet is experiencing unprecedented rapid global change. It may seem daunting, it may seem like someone else's problem somewhere else, but we only have one planet. Through collective actions, we can succeed and ensure a sustainable and positive future for our children.

Newman designs and implements conservation programmes, oversees sustainability and conservation initiatives across the Banyan Tree Group. He develops sustainability strategies in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals and handles the operations of Banyan Tree Marine Labs in Maldives.

AROUND The Globe

Join us as we take you on a journey to our properties around the world and see how they are embracing the environment and empowering people.

Helping Out On Fridays

Laguna Phuket's "Happy Friday: Stay for Good" is a weekly initiative that allows guests and associates to participate in a variety of 'Do Good, Feel Good' activities such as storytelling, teaching, singing or serving lunch to the children at Laguna Phuket Kindergarten (LPK).

Laguna Phuket (Banyan Tree, Angsana, Cassia), Thailand

World Turtle Day

For World Turtle Day, Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru had a special event where guests and staff helped to measure and weigh baby turtles to track their growth. The event then wrapped up with the tagging and releasing of two older green sea turtles, with all the guests gathering to send them off.

Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru, Maldives

Visiting Children with Special Needs

In celebration of Children's Day on 1 June 2017, Banyan Tree Chongqing Beibei visited a local special needs school, bringing 100 mini burgers and cakes, and even held a baking session with the children. The team of volunteers also brought along cartoon characters – Doraemon and Kumamon – as special guests to surprise the children.

Banyan Tree Chongqing Beibei, China

Caring for Homeless Dogs

Every week, Angsana Xi'an Lintong associates help to clean the Xi'an Animal Shelter, care for the homeless dogs and provide food. The shelter houses over 2,000 dogs that were either abandoned or saved from dog meat dealers.

Angsana Xi'an Lintong, China











On Laguna Phuket's 30th anniversary in 2017, Children First Fund (CFF) was established. This is a step further that Laguna Phuket is taking in the area of empowering and supporting the future generation. Over the years, Laguna Phuket has developed Laguna Phuket Kindergarten, a Community Learning Centre and a Mobile Learning Centre to educate the young without any form of fees required of the children.

CFF is a community effort to build an even stronger support for disadvantaged children. The motto of this programme is "Nourishing Hearts, Inspiring Dreams" as the children will always be provided with nourishing food that strengthens their body and keeps them in good health. This in turn builds up children filled with positive self-esteem as they feel treasured. With this, CFF hopes to inspire the children to chase their dreams, soaring as high as they want to without worry of lack.

This fund also provides educational sustenance that helps in their cognitive development, such as textbooks, novels and stationery. Laguna Phuket staff and guests are given opportunities to get involved, teaching the children and creating a conducive learning environment for them.

As of September 2017, CFF supports eight organisations (about 620 children). These organisations have been established to care for orphans and underprivileged children in Phuket and neighbouring provinces.





The second of four resorts, Angsana Cayo Santa Maria, Cuba will open its doors in August 2018.

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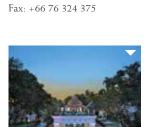
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SOUTH ASIA







Banyan Tree Anji is set to open in May 2018 in one of the most popular summer destinations in eastern China.

HOTEL DIRECTORY - ANGSANA, CASSIA AND DHAWA



Situated at the foot of Jinshanling Great Wall in China, Dhawa Jinshanling opens in May 2018.

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

Angsana Riads Lydines N.45 Derb Abda, Kasbah 40000 Marrakech Morocco Angsana Riads Si Said N.1-2-4 Derb Abbes El Fassi Riad Zitoun Jdid, Medina 40000 Marrakech Morocco

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Angsana Tengchong • Hot Spring Village Mayugu International Hot Springs Resort Beihai Town, Tengchong County Yunnan Province, 679100 People's Republic of China Tel: +86 875 899 9888 Fax: +86 875 899 8999

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