



TAT Mumbai Director's Message

Dear travel partner,

Greetings from Tourism Authority of Thailand, Mumbai!

The month of September brings to close a milestone for our office in Mumbai. We complete our first year of operations and what an exciting and adventurous year it has been!

I would like to thank all our travel trade and media fraternity for supporting 'Amazing Thailand, Amazing Value' and ensuring we stay amongst the Top 3 destinations for the discerning Indian outbound traveler.



During this month, Thailand will play host to two unique B2B events, the first being the Thailand Travel Mart Plus 2010. The event focuses on enhancing trade and business relations among global and regional travel operators with participating Thai private sector companies. TTM+ also helps us in boosting bilateral service business in Thailand and its Greater Mekong Sub region (GMS) counterparts. This historic month is also a proud moment for all of us at TAT in India - the Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) will conduct their 59th Indian Travel Congress in Phuket, Thailand from 24 to 27 September 2010. We hope to see many of our friends enjoy our Thai hospitality and cuisine.

During my first year, I have focused on promoting the destination targeting several niche segments such as golf, wedding / honeymoon and as a filmmaker's haven. Subsequently, destinations such as Trang, Ko-Chang, Rayong are evoking strong interest amongst the evolved Indian traveler who are now in search of tranquil beauty with new experiences.

In this month's edition of our e-newsletter, in addition to the unique offers and promotions, I would like our travel fraternity to focus on our world-renowned medical facilities and an exciting destination Rayong, a delightful seaside province on Thailand's eastern Gulf coast!

We look forward to your continued valued support, suggestions and feedback.

Warm Regards,

Sethaphan Buddhani

Director

Tourism Authority of Thailand

(Western, Southern & Central India Sri Lanka & Maldives)





This Months Regional Highlight

Rayong

Located approximately 220 kilometers from Bangkok, Rayong is another delightful seaside province on Thailand's eastern Gulf coast. Most of Rayong Province is marked by mountains interspersed by flat plains and large tracts of fruit plantations and forests. However, the province is most well known for its pristine beaches stretching along its 100-kilometer coastline and its scenic waterfalls set amidst exotic surroundings. Aside from these natural attractions, Rayong produces an abundance of seafood products, such as shrimp paste, fish sauce, and dried seafood, and grows a number of tropical fruits of which rambutan, mangosteen and durian are the most famous.

Boasting indispensable sea-life resources, Rayong is one of the country's major agricultural and industrial provinces. On the other hand, the province has maintained its traditions and customs in the daily lifestyles of the locals. Most renowned for its quiet and unspoiled beaches, including Mu Koh Samet National Park, Rayong is a popular beach getaway destination for Bangkok residents and a renowned producer of seafood related goods.



Getting There:

As a province located along a highly traveled route, Chonburi is easily reached by private car, public bus, and even air from Samui and Phuket on Bangkok Airways. Once in one of Rayong's coastal towns, it may be easier to get around with your own car, but there are standard forms of local transport available for visitors: i.e. songtaews, motorbike taxis, tuk tuks, and public busses.

By car:

Follow Sukhumvit Road (Highway No. 3) from Bangkok through Bangpu District, Chonburi town, Bangsaen, Sri Racha District, Pattaya, Hat Jomtien, Sattahip District, Ban Chang District before finally arriving in the center of Rayong Province. The total distance is 220 kilometers.

By Bus:

Rayong is the eastern gateway to the north and northeast of Thailand. As such, there are many regular bus services connecting Rayong and Bangkok and other provinces such as Chiang Mai, Nakhon Ratchasima, and Nong Khai. Busses from Bangkok to Rayong depart regularly from Ekkamai eastern bus terminal (near BTS Ekkamai). There are specific busses for those who wish to go to Koh Samet that terminate at Ban Phe opposite the boat pier.

By Air

Bangkok Airways operates flights from Phuket and Koh Samui to Rayong/U-Tapao.





Activities:

Although a quieter seaside destination than Pattaya or Hua Hin, Rayong still has a number of activities to participate in and visitors with many interests will find something to keep them entertained on their Rayong holiday.

Horse Riding:

The first Wakeboard Spot in Thailand, since 1999! "The place to ride & chill". Our tropical "Dok Krai Resort" is located directly on the lake side (Dok Krai Reservoir) amongst beautiful nature. They specialize in wakeboard camps. Since they started they had over 30 different nationalities. Riders come and stay for several month, enjoying the relaxed atmosphere and professional care. Multilingual pro riders provide excellent coaching.

Wakeboard Spot:

An ideal place to ride horses, a stable which offers a weekend of pleasurable hours on horseback for hobbyists or a serious training environment for pros. Chom View Horse Riding Club has something for everyone at our all-inclusive facility in Ban Chang on Highway #3376 within easy reach of Rayong and Pattaya.

Their equestrian sanctuary promises the riding experience of a lifetime. Lessons are available for beginners through professionals. Trainers are on-site to render assistance and they even have trained horses for sale should you fancy owning one.

Where to Go

Ban Phe:

A seaside town located approximately 19 kilometers southeast of the city, Ban Phe is the best place to enjoy relaxing on a long white sandy beach while sampling sumptuous seafood. Ban Phe is a major fishing community in the province.

Laem Mae Phim:

This cape can be reach either from Sukhumvit Road by taking a right turn at km.

Sunthon Phu Monument:

The monument was built to commemorate Sunthon Phu, a leading poet in the early Rattanakosin era, two centuries ago. There are statues of Sunthon Phu and characters from his famous literature.

Rayong Aquarium:

A large aquarium with a tunnel allows visitors to see various beautiful fish as well as economic-related creatures living in the mangrove forest such as cuttlefish, crab, giant clam, and horseshoe crab. day long, with plans to release some of the animals back into the wild.





Our Recently Concluded Events

Thailand Trade Exhibition 2010, Mumbai (13th to 16th August 2010)

The Department of Export Promotion, Ministry of Commerce, Royal Thai Government organized 'Thailand Trade Exhibition 2010' at the World Trade Centre, Mumbai during 13th to 16th August 2010.

Leading Thai manufacturers from the following segments displayed unique and innovative products ranging from Food and Beverages, Spa and Health Products, Garments, Textiles & Fashion Accessories, Children Products, Games & Toys, Gems and Jewelry, Gifts and Decorative Items to household & Kitchenware Products. Parallel to the exhibition, Exhibition B2B meetings were held from 13th to the 16th of August 2010.

This definitely proved to be an excellent opportunity for business development for both India and Thailand.





Thailand Travel Mart Plus 2010 The Greater Mekong Sub region (8th to 10th September 2010)

With cooperation between the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) and the Thai tourism industry, Thailand has the honor to be the host of the largest B2B event 'Thailand Travel Mart Plus Amazing Gateway to the Greater Mekong Subregion' (TTM + GMS).

Over 400 booths are available for travel operators and service businesses across Thailand and the GMS countries. The 10 business categories arranged for the event are Hotels and Resorts, Tour Operators and Travel Agents, Eco and Adventure, Wellness and Spa, Airlines, Entertainment /Theme Parks/Culture Products, Golf Courses, Associations, Other Travel Services and the Greater Mekong Subregion/ NTOs .

Thailand Press Conference by Mr. Suraphon Svetasreni - Governor of the Tourism Authority of Thailand



The Thailand Travel Mart Plus or the TTM Plus is the country's premier annual trade event promoting travel and tourism to Thailand, and our neighbors in the Greater Mekong Subregion. A key goal for this event provided a platform for Thailand's small and medium-sized entrepreneurs to market their products and services on the international stage.

This year, more than 388 sellers and organizations took part in the TTM Plus. There are 425 booths, including 253 hotels and resorts, and 41 travel agents and tour operators. You would have also find other tourism products and services in the show. We even had 14 organizations from the Greater Mekong Subregion that joined us this year. These participants met with 335 buyers from 50 major markets including countries in Europe, America, and the Asia-Pacific. As part of TAT's strategy to tap into new markets, this year we welcomed buyers for the first time from Portugal, Poland, Kazakhstan, Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico. We also had 60 trade visitors from Asia here to observe this event.

As such, having a large number of international buyers, media, and other senior delegates from all over the world clearly showed that there is still strong confidence in Thailand as one of the leading tourist destinations.

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Upcoming Events

9th HUA HIN/CHA-AM GOLF FESTIVAL 2010 August 1- September 30, 2010

The Tourism Authority of Thailand Phetchaburi Office, together with the Phetchaburi- Prachuap Khiri Khan Golf Course Association, invites all golf lovers to join in the fun during the Hua Hin/Cha-am Golf Festival throughout August and September 2010.



Promotional offers include:

- An offer to play golf at a participating golf course in Hua Hin or Cha-am for only 800 baht* the lowest green fees of the year (The 800-baht fee excludes caddy fees and rental of golf cart.)
- Invitations to apply to compete in organized tournaments every Sunday for just Baht 1,400 (Fees include caddy and dinner), with a chance to win lucky draw prizes.
- Prizes presented for the 'longest drive' contests
- Special offers of 990 baht and 1,990 baht on accommodation from over 40 participating hotels and resorts

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News from Thailand

“FRIENDS OF THAILAND” Award-Winners for 2010 announced

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) is proud to announce the winners of the Friends of Thailand Awards 2010. They will be conferred at a special ceremony on 27 September 2010, at the Centara Grand Bangkok.

The Friends of Thailand Award is to honor and express appreciation to Thailand's 'international friends' for their continued contribution to the advancement of Thai tourism. The Awards recognize individuals, groups of individuals, organizations, and agencies worldwide who have played a significant role in promoting Thailand abroad and have contributed to the wider publicity of the destination in the international community.

For 2010, a total of 75 Awards will be presented to recipients from 29 countries in four categories:

1. International Individual/Organization: 18 Awards
2. International Tour Operators: 26 Awards
3. International Media: 23 Awards
4. International Airlines: 8 Awards

The names of awardees from our area are as follows:

1. International Tour Operators: Mrs. Veena Patil, Kesari Tours Pvt.Ltd.
2. International Media: Mrs. Reema Lokesh, Express Travel World
3. International Airlines: Mr.Gilbert George, Jet Airways (India) Pvt.Ltd.

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Fly & Drive your way to priceless experience across Thailand. Only with Master Card Until 30 September 2010

From now till September 30, 2010 be drawn into a delightful discovery of the Land of Smiles with a Fly & Drive travel package brought to you by MasterCard and Tourism Authority of Thailand.

Travel in pairs starting from just THB 5, 999 per person and enjoy. Every subsequent traveller will be charged starting from THB 5, 999.

For further information:

Website: www.flyanddrivethailand.com





The Unique Collection appointed to manage absolute to manage Absolute Sanctuary “THAILAND'S PREMIER DETOX & YOGA RESORT”

The Unique Collection of Hotels & Resorts is pleased to announce the latest addition to the group with ABSOLUTE SANCTUARY, Thailand's Premier Detox & Yoga resort.

Absolute Sanctuary, a Moroccan inspired boutique wellness resort specializing in Detox, Spa & yoga programs on Koh Samui has signed a management agreement with Unique Collection.

One of the upcoming fore players in the wellness resort arena, ABSOLUTE SANCTUARY is part of Absolute Yoga Group, which owns and operates 7 yoga studios in Thailand & 3 in Singapore.

The 7 rai resort, features 38 stylish Moroccan--inspired rooms, a world class Detox center with 7 modern colon hydrotherapy rooms, a Yoga Center featuring 2 beautiful studios with Jungle & Sea views offering a wide variety of yoga classes including Hot Yoga, a Spa Center with indoor & outdoor massage areas featuring holistic spa treatments, a Spa cuisine restaurant featuring healthy yet tasty meals , an infinity edge pool with juice bar , Mini Theatre/Conference room, Steam Room & Far Infared Sauna.



For further information:

The Unique Collection of Hotels & Resorts

Tel. +66 2 250 4527---9

Email: info@theuniquecollection.com / info@absolutesanctuary.com

Website: www.theuniquecollection.com / www.absolutesanctuary.com





Thailand Medical Tourism Cluster

The major stakeholders in medical tourism, the hospitals, have joined forces with supporting organizations, including hotel/rehabilitation facilities, travel agents, nurses, ambulance operators, medical specialists, Thai traditional medicine specialists, spa operators, and the Translators and Interpreters Association, to form the Medical Tourism Cluster. The collaboration effort, as outlined in the Medical Tourism Cluster Map, is supported by government agencies and educational institutes. It aims to enhance the quality of medical tourism in Thailand and facilitate foreigners seeking medical services in Thailand. The Medical Tourism Cluster provides foreigners the convenience of comprehensive information to plan their trips, from choosing the destinations, selecting the travel agents, to planning their stays and the trips home.

The Medical Tourism Cluster provides this website as a focal point for all relevant information. Here included helpful and practical information that will make your trip planning tasks more convenient:

- Basic data about Thailand, its geographic features, religions, regions, climate, culture, tradition, tourist attractions, etc
- An overview of medical services in Thailand, introducing you to the advancement of Thai modern medicine
- The reasons that make Thailand the most popular medical tourism destination in Asia (over 1.8 million in 2009)
- Medical services available in Thailand
- Lists of doctors with their qualifications and specialties
- Information about hospitals and services available to foreigners, their backgrounds, strengths, specialties, and hospital standards
- Information about hospitals and services available to foreigners, their backgrounds, strengths, specialties, and hospital standards
- Information about travel agents catered to medical tourists in Thailand, their hassle-free and turn key services that will help plan your trips Information about hotel accommodation and rehabilitation facilities for you and your companions after treatments.

The Medical Tourism Cluster hopes that you will find it easy to get all the information you need for your trip.

For further information:

Institute for Small and Medium Enterprises Development

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Thailand Promotions

Thai Airways International.

“DOUBLE HAPPINESS” Promotion for BKK & Domestic Thailand

In order to provide support to promote customers to travel to Thailand, Thai Airways is delighted to offer “DOUBLE HAPPINESS” Promotion for BKK & Domestic Thailand.

Sales/Ticketing: Immediate till 30th Sep 2010.

Outbound Travel Commencement: Immediate till 31st Oct 2010.

ROUTING	FARE BASIS	MAX STAY	RBD	GROSS FARE
FROM DEL/BOM/CCU/BLR				
TO BKK	W14DSPI	14DAYS	W	5,850 + Q surcharge + Taxes
CEI/CNX/KBV/URT/KKC/U TH/UBP/HDY	W14DSPI	14DAYS	W	9,040+ Q surcharge + Taxes

For further information:

Tel: (022) 6139 5599 / 6637 3777

Website: www.thaiairways.co.in

A-One: The Royal Cruise Hotel, Pattaya

A-ONE The Royal Cruise Hotel Pattaya gentle waves meet unique cruise design. The hotel faces the fascinating sea view of Pattaya beachfront promenade in North Pattaya Beach. Fully facilities and complete entertainments are exclusively provided for you at the place where anything is possible. 466 Cabins Beachfront, 2 Ship-Shaped, City-Resort. The A-One Pattaya Hotel has Private Terraces & Shower + Bath Tub, Karaoke, Pub, Restaurant and Pool Side Area with International BBQ Dinner and Seafood BBQ Dinner. Every afternoon / evening you have a choice of two barbeques by the poolside. Either a wonderful seafood or a delicious menu of international fare. Both starting at 5pm the seafood runs all night to midnight, while the international barbeque stops at 9pm.



For further information:

Tel: (+ 66) 038259555 / (+ 66) 027181030-43

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Website: www.a-onehotel.com





Events to remember

Event	Dates	Activities	Venue
Tourism Authority of Thailand Roadshow	4 th October 2010	- Products Presentation - B2B Session - Dinner Reception	"Cinnamon Grand Hotel" Colombo, Sri Lanka

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