



## TAT Mumbai Director's Message

Dear travel partners,

With the holiday season in progress, I trust your organization and staff will have a productive season.

For us at TAT Mumbai, during the month of May we have conducted several key initiatives to boost the overall inbound Indian travelers to Thailand whilst focusing on the niche segments of wedding and golf.

To create a larger level of awareness for the spectacular properties in Thailand, which are ideal to host Indian weddings, an educational trip was recently conducted for India's top wedding organizers. Furthermore, TAT had also organized an



educational trip for media and golf enthusiasts to experience firsthand picturesque golf courses in Bangkok and Chiang Mai.

For this month's issue, we will touch upon Thailand as a destination capable of playing host to discerning Indian couples that wish to celebrate their once in a life time experience – their wedding. Getting married is like going on a journey and we believe Thailand to be a wedding haven. Thailand prides itself as one of the hottest wedding destinations in the world today with perfection through picturesque venues, tantalizing food, luxurious facilities for guests, fabulous ceremony, irresistible honeymoon packages and all the other services to make the couples' memories last the lifetime. Chiang Mai, Pattaya, Phuket and Bangkok are the most popular destinations for Indian weddings with Hua Hin gaining popularity.

I do hope that these picturesque properties would appeal to you and your readers /clients

Wishing you and your organization a great season!

Warm regards,

#### Sethaphan Buddhani

Director - Tourism Authority of Thailand, Mumbai office 45 Free Press House, Free Press Journal Marg, Narmain Point Mumbai 400021 Email: tatmumbai@tat.or.th Phone: 022 22042727/28







## Wedding in Amazing Thailand

Getting married is like going on a journey and we believe Thailand to be a wedding haven.

Thailand prides itself as one of the hottest wedding destinations in the world today with perfection in a picturesque setting, great food and service, luxurious facilities for our guest, fabulous ceremony, irresistible honeymoon packages and all the other paraphernalia taken care of without a glitch.

Chiang Mai, Pattaya, Phuket and Bangkok are the most popular destinations for Indian weddings. Also, getting increasingly popular is Hua Hin.



Destination weddings in Thailand from India are on the rise, so are other celebrations like birthdays, anniversaries, graduation parties, family

reunions, etc. due to its popularity as a value for money destination and its proximity to India. No fewer than 100 large-scale weddings of at least 200 people each were organized in Thailand in 2010. Also, with its beautiful locales to boast about, Thailand makes an ideal destination for a dream

## Cities to choose from for your special day



#### <u>Bangkok</u>

Bangkok certainly lives up to its reputation as a travel hot spot in Southeast Asia. The 'City of Angels' has funky markets, upmarket malls, a riverside full of surprises, spectacular hotel properties that will surely make your wedding an eventful one.

#### <u>Phuket</u>

The bustling, administrative centre of Phuket is often overlooked in favour of the beaches, but there's a lot to see and do in Phuket City. Having been recently

upgraded to city status, Phuket City features an exciting mix of old and new, simple and sophisticated, peaceful and pulsating.





#### <u>Hua Hin</u>

City of pure gold, delectable coconuts and

pineapples, delightful beaches, mountains and caves, land of spiritual beauty. Prachuap Khiri Khan is an attractive alternative destination for visitors who want to avoid overcrowded resorts, while it is easily accessible from Bangkok. There are plenty of peaceful lesser-known attractions, particularly as you venture away from the main town. It is also a popular destination among Thais so the province can perhaps give travelers a greater insight into the "real" Thailand.

#### <u>Koh Samui</u>

With soft sandy beaches shaded by towering palms, delicious fresh seafood and a vibrant nightlife, Samui has a magical formula that seems to cast its spell on everyone.













# Tourism Authority of Thailand



#### Chiang Mai

People come to experience the beautiful mountainous scenery of Northern Thailand, go trekking, eat, drink, party, delve into history, and seek out adventure. The quiet winding lanes of the old town, rustic old wooden guesthouses, lively riverside restaurants, colourful hill tribe folk, and the bustling Night Bazaar all contribute to make Chiang Mai an unforgettable destination



## Unique ways to wed in Amazing Thailand



#### Wedding on an elephant's back

This is a traditional wedding ceremony of the Kui people. During the ceremony the brides wear a crown made of palm leaf while the grooms adorn a traditional Kui costume.

Couples interested in becoming a part of this joyful event for the coming year can log on to <u>www.tourismthailand.org/surin.</u>

#### **Underwater wedding**

This kind of wedding is held in the Trang province. Couples enjoy a traditional Thai wedding ceremony and a wedding certificate formally signed underwater.





#### Hot Air Balloon Wedding

In Chiang Mai province, fourteen couples together with official marriage registrars went up in fourteen hot-air balloons and had their 'wedding in the sky'. The event is aimed at promoting Thailand as a theme wedding destination and is likely to catch on very quickly.







# Amazing Thailand, Amazing Hotels!

City	Name of Hotel/Resort	Contact Details
Bangkok	Shangri-La Hotel	Phone: (66 2) 236 7777
	Bangkok	http://www.shangri – la.com
	Grand Hyatt Erawan	Phone: +66 2 254 1234
	Bangkok	http://www.bangkok.grand.hyatt.com
	Lebua Bangkok	Phone +66 2 624 9555
		http://www.lebua.com
	Sofitel Centara Grand	Phone: +66 (0) 2541 1234
	Bangkok	http://www.centarahotelsresorts.com
	Rembrandt Hotel	Phone: +66 (0) 2261 7100
		http://www.rembrandtbkk.com
Chiang Mai	Le Méridien Chiang Mai	Phone: (66)(53) 253 666
		http://www.starwoodhotels.com
Chiang Rai	Dusit Chaing Rai	Phone : +66 (0) 5360 7999
	-	http://www.dusit.com
Hua Hin	Hilton Hua Hin Resort	Phone: 66-32-538-999
	& Spa	http://www1.hilton.com
	Dusit Hua Hin	Phone : +66 (0) 3252 0009
	Centara Grand Hua	Phone: +66 (0) 81 8585939
	Hin	Email: bvh@chr.co.th
Ko Samui	Banyan Tree Koh Sa	Phone: +66 77 915 333
	Mui	http://www.banyantree.com
Krabi	Holiday Inn Krabi (Phi Phi)	Phone. 66 75 627 300, Reservation's Tel. 66 76 261 860-3
		http://www.phiphi.holidayinn.com
Phuket	Royal Marina	Phone: +66 (0) 76 360811-4
	Phuket	www.royalphuketmarina.com
	Flicket	
	Dusit Phuket	Phone: +66 (0) 7636 2999
	J W Marriott	Dhama ( 00 70 220000
	Phuket Resort &	Phone : 66-76-338000
	Spa	http://www.marriott.com
	Le Méridien Phuket	Phone : (66)(76) 370 100
		www. indigo-pearl.com
	Indigo Pearl	www.indigo-pean.com







### **Recently Concluded Events**

### Wedding FAM trip

Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) New Delhi and Mumbai offices, in collaboration with Thai Air Asia, recently hosted a 6-day fam trip to Thailand exclusively for the top wedding planners of India. The wedding planners were invited to Bangkok, Hua Hin and Phuket. Various hotels showcased their wide range of offerings with regards to the cuisines, traditional Indian decorations, themes and flower arrangements for weddings as well as other celebrations.

More than 100 large-scale weddings of at least 200 people each were organized in Thailand in 2010. With its beautiful locales to boast about, Thailand makes an ideal destination for a dream wedding

The trip provided the wedding planners a chance to have one-on-one interactions with the hotels and get a firsthand experience of the arrangements and locations.





From Left to Right: Vishv Vijae, Pornchai, Madhu Naidu, Pinki Arora (representing TAT New Delhi), Suladda Sarutilavan (Assistant Director, TAT Mumbai), Pritesh Sharma, Toranin K. (Thai Air Asia), Ajay Soni, Rajeev Jain, Arjun Mahajan, Rajnish Rathi, Salim Sait, Swati Sood, Candice Pereira

The wedding planners were delighted and found the educational trip very fruitful. "I got a fair idea about the properties and the logistics to hold a wedding at Thailand" said Mr.Vishv Vijae of Regal Wedding while Ms.Candice Pereira of Marry Me – The Wedding Planners said "It was very informative and will no doubt help us sell Thailand more confidently as a wedding destination"

Swati Sood of Bollywood Events, New Delhi said that "It was one of the best tailor made and well sorted educational trip conducted by TAT. I found the concept of hosting a wedding in a spa resort extremely unique and something that would lure Indians into hosting weddings in Thailand."









## Traditional Thai Welcome for women group

Tourism Authority of Thailand organized a traditional Thai welcome, a souvenir and a one-day trip to Safari world for a group of 647 visitors mainly consisting of women travelers and families.





# **Golf Educational Visit**

A Golf study tour was conducted from 21<sup>st</sup> May to 28<sup>th</sup> May for media and golf enthusiasts. The cities covered were Bangkok, Chiang Mai and Chiang Mai.

The participants of the study tour were given an opportunity to have a firsthand experience of the picturesque golf courses such as the ALPINE Golf Country Club, HIGHLAND Golf Country club and Siam Country Club.

L to R, Miraj Shah, Golf Digest India, Ajit Mohandas, Golftripz, Sumit Rathor, Captain KGA, Bangalore, Ajit Parmar, Committee Member BPGC, Mumbai, Madhav Misra, Golftripz & Mr. Sethaphan Buddhani, Director of TAT, Mumbai

## Trade Meet in Chiang Mai

A trade meet was organised during Chiang Mai Golf Festival and Golf & Dive Expo Fam Trip co-organised by TAT Mumbai and TAT New Delhi from 22-28 May 2011. It was attended by 30 Thai private sectors.









## **News From Thailand**

# New Sub-Committees established to help ensure the safety of tourists visiting Thailand

To maintain Thailand's leadership position in the tourism, hospitality and meetings sectors, the Thai government in late April, 2011, established four sub-committees under the Committee to Resolve Tourist Issues in Thailand, which is chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Suthep Thaugsuban.

The four new sub-committees will proactively manage cases in which tourists are taken advantage of as well as develop solutions for tackling tourism issues. This will help to ensure the safety and well-being of tourists and strengthen confidence in Thailand as a travel destination. The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) will support the committees with insights and suggestions for improvements and solutions. The TAT will also collaborate with the Ministry of Tourism and Sports to develop measures to assist visitors to Thailand who need assistance.

## TTM Plus 2011 Goes On Track

An amazingly diverse and comprehensive programme of seminars, tours and networking opportunities awaits participants of the Thailand Travel Mart 2011 Plus Amazing Gateway to Greater Mekong Subregion (TTM Plus 2011) when it opens on 8 June at the Impact Muang Thong Thani Exhibition Centre, Bangkok.

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT)'s new "balanced strategy" is to be meticulously followed during the three-day event with a good mix of doing business sessions as well as a focus on environmental preservation under the theme of "Caring for the Earth". Numerous tours are being organised for those wishing to get a first-hand experience.

## TAT Most Amazing Show On Earth (Phase 2)



Following the launch of the "Most Amazing Show On Earth" campaign, the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) now introduces "Hearing The Sunshine By Amazing Thailand", a film about journeying through Thailand based on the collective experiences of real travellers.

Now the second phase, "Hearing The Sunshine By Amazing Thailand" centres around two travellers, a sound artist and a photographer, each of whom have their own unique ways of interacting with and interpreting the world around them. The film follows each of them on

their separate journeys through Thailand to their intersections featuring different regions and provinces in the country, which allow them to share amazing moments together as their relationship develops.

The film is set to premiere on 8 June at www.mostamazingshow.com and will be divided into 7 episodes, so viewers from all over the world can tune in for the experience.







## **Thailand Promotion**

#### Summer 2011 Promotion at the Banyan Tree Samui PAY 2 Nights - STAY 3 Nights Villa Categories & Per Night Tariff



Garden Pool VillaBanyan TreeTHB 2161099/9 Moo 4USD 732Suratthani 8Grand Pool VillaFAX:+66 77THB 23200FAX:+66 77USD 786reservationsOcean View Pool VillaHttp://www.THB 23200USD 786USD 786FAX:+66 77USD 786reservationsTERMS & CONDITIONSHttp://www.Tariff Includes breakfastTaxes Extra @18.7 %Extra Person @ THB 6300 Per Night Net01 Child below 12 stays Free

Banyan Tree Samui 99/9 Moo 4 Maret, Koh Samui Suratthani 84310 , Thailand MAIN: + 66 77 915 333 FAX: + 66 77 915 388 reservations-samui@banyantree.com Http://www.banyantree.com

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