



this month
IN THE MAGAZINE
april 2009



Best of the best

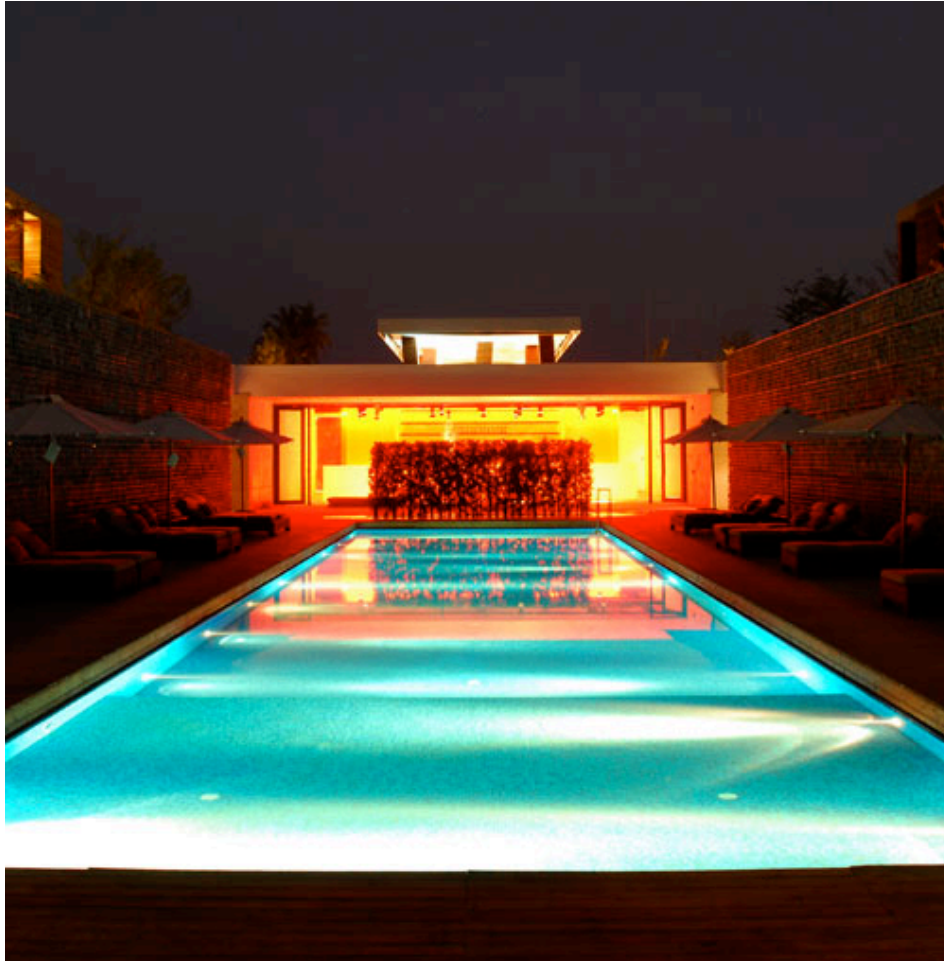
Sweet-as-heaven cupcakes; star chef Thomas Keller; Easter lunch; cheap chic cuts; where and what to eat right now.

Hot travel

Our favourite new hotels; sexy affordable destinations; the latest travel trends and more.

Best New Hotels 2009

We've got the keys to the most fabulous new hotels in the world. From an elegant palazzo in Florence to a handsome lodge in Tasmania, it's about unique experiences. The best news? They don't all cost a bomb. Check in.



Alila Cha-Am, Thailand

Noted Thai architect Duangrit Bunnag's modernist vision of a beach resort embraces sculptural forms, natural materials and excellent feng shui beside the Gulf of Thailand. The bare concrete walls and floors of the 79 rooms and villas are warmed with woods and limestone and lavished with home theatre systems, Apple TV and free WiFi. The Spa Alila offers indigenous treatments by day and transforms into the vampish Red Bar by night. A "leisure concierge" can help arrange outings such as night-time squid fishing.

We like: The shimmering expanse of Cha-Am, Thailand's longest white-sand **beach**.

5 Moo 7, Tambol Bangkao, Amphur Cha-Am, Petchaburi, Thailand, +66 32 709555, alilahotels.com.

PHOTOGRAPH **COURTESY ALILA CHA-AM** WORDS **KENDALL HILL**