

### **Anantara Phuket Resort & Spa, Thailand, Opening October 2008**

Imagine a place where visitors can watch baby turtles hatch on the beach, meet sea gypsies to learn about their culture or laze on a pristine stretch of sand that is a world away from the everyday. Wake up to a brand new Phuket with Anantara Resort & Spa.

Situated in the serenity of Mai Khao Beach, just 15 minutes from Phuket International Airport and a short drive from the bustling beaches of the South, Anantara Phuket Resort & Spa will present a world of unspoilt beauty and unexpected surprises.

Each of Anantara Phuket's 83 villas comes with its own private 33 square metre pool set either within magnificent Bill Bensley-designed gardens with enchanting paths meandering down to the sea or by the stunning lagoon with its radiant planting scheme, bamboo water fountains and night-time flaming torches lighting.

Reminiscent of a southern Thai village, every villa boasts an expansive 120 square metres of living space with colourful silks, prized Thai furniture, and a beautiful bathroom featuring an Anantara signature outdoor 'made for two' terrazzo tub that resides in perfect harmony with the private pool. The serene luxury is enhanced by a full range of modern touches such as an iPod with docking station, LCD TV and DVD surround sound system, Espresso coffee machine, Resident's bar filled with gourmet snacks and beverages, Resident's wine cellar, indoor and outdoor rain showers, daybed and outdoor living sala. In addition, some villas boast private dining salas that can be reached via rustic wooden walkways across the tranquil waters of the lagoon.

Away from the resort, Anantara will give guests the opportunity to explore the vibrancy of southern Thailand and see Phuket through new eyes with a wide range of cultural experiences. A moonlight canoe trip to a stunning lagoon glistening with the magical phosphorescence of fireflies; the romance of a sunset cruise aboard a private fishing boat; a diving expedition to the Similan islands to reveal the cacophony of colours and shapes beneath the water with world-famous coral reefs; a spiritually uplifting day working with local communities who have rebuilt their lives in the aftermath of the tsunami; or a picnic breakfast at a rubber plantation ahead of a busy morning learning how to harvest the precious resource. The range of adventures on offer is unique, genuinely authentic and totally unforgettable.

At the end of the day, guests can adjourn to one of the stylish, high concept dining areas. Kick start the day with a great breakfast with buffet and gourmet a la carte options at **La Sala**. At lunch and dinner, this airy restaurant comes to life with Italian creative flare with an accent on Sicilian specialities. Named for the spiral staircase ascending to the bar that winds around an old Banyan tree, **The Tree House** offers Thai fusion tapas, lounge mood music to chill out to, and delectable hot and cold drinks. Fresh **SEA**food, **FIRE** BBQs and our own **SALT** Sommelier are the inspiration for the naming of our beachside restaurant, **Sea.Fire.Salt**, serving exquisite fish and meat dishes. The **Infinity** poolside bar is the perfect place to sip a martini or health-giving shake. At **The Tasting Room**, guests can indulge in personally designed menus from our Executive Chef including special cheese and charcuterie, paired flawlessly with the perfect bottle of wine selected by our resident Wine Guru from the Private Wine Cellar – heaven on earth for the wine connoisseur.

Discovery, adventure, culture, luxury – this is what defines the unique experience that is Anantara. But it isn't just about discovering the place. At Anantara, guests can discover something about themselves too.

The acclaimed Anantara Spa is the perfect sanctuary for a journey to inner harmony. This unique spa will be defined by the beauty and symbolism of the lotus flower. A range of unique treatments has been devised to reflect the influence of the lotus theme: the white lotus for cleansing and de-stressing, the red lotus for the romance of couple's treatments and the majestic double rose lotus to represent the stunning spa rituals.

If guests want to leave the luxury of their own private pool, they can head to the groundbreaking lifestyle swimming pool which features a series of water terraces of differing depths, stylish fountain effects and in-built loungers. For those who want to be more active, three tennis courts fitted with night-playing technology and a fully-equipped fitness centre and health club are also available. The Library offers a wide range of books and classic and latest-release movies, and the Gallery boutique is perfect for picking up high quality handicrafts, fashion items and gifts. The Hive kids' club will keep the little ones safe and happy with fun activities.

For executives who are aware that not every deal is brokered in the boardroom and that effective team-building can transform their company, Anantara Phuket is the perfect venue for meetings, incentives, conferences and events (MICE). The range of boardrooms caters for private power lunches up to larger meeting rooms, as well as full catering, technology and secretarial facilities.

For more information on Anantara Phuket and other Anantara Hotels, Resorts & Spas visit [www.anantara.com](http://www.anantara.com)

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For hundreds of years throughout Thailand, people would leave a jar of water outside their house to provide refreshment and extend a welcome to the passing traveller. Anantara is taken from an ancient Sanskrit word that means 'without end', symbolising the sharing of water and heartfelt hospitality is at the core of the Anantara experience.

**Anantara** resorts and spas are currently located in the seaside town of Hua Hin and on Koh Samui, both in the Gulf of Thailand, and in the Golden Triangle in the country's north. In the world-renowned destination of the Maldives, the neighbouring Anantara Dhigu and Anantara Veli are a 30 minute boat ride from the capital Male. The newest member of the Anantara family, Anantara Seminyak Resort & Spa, opened in 2008 in the most fashionable district of Bali – the Island of the Gods. October 2008 will see the launch of Anantara Phuket Resort & Spa, situated in the serenity of Mai Khao Beach and just 15 minutes from Phuket International Airport. [www.anantara.com](http://www.anantara.com)

Anantara is a member of Global Hotel Alliance (GHA), the world's largest alliance of independent hotel groups. GHA partner hotels are renowned for reflecting and respecting local traditions and culture through their products and services. [www.globalhotelalliance.com](http://www.globalhotelalliance.com)

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