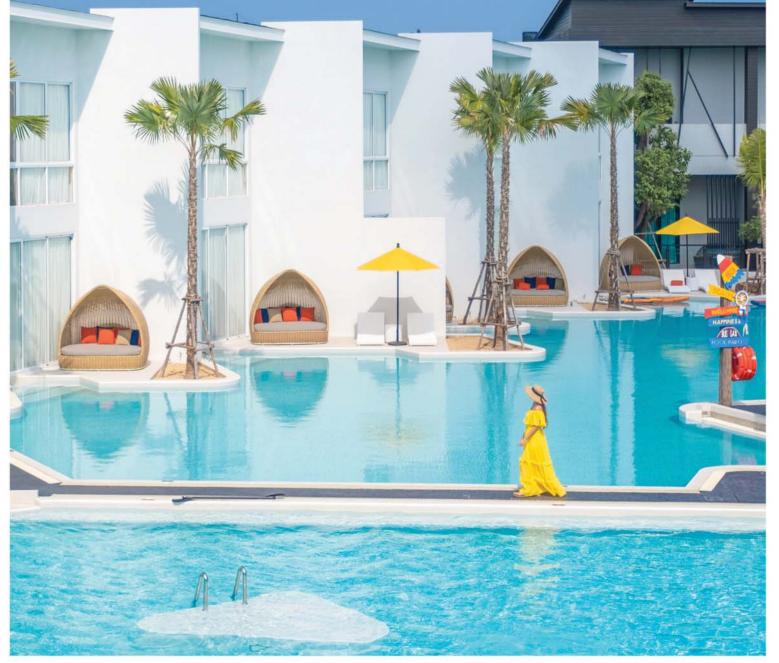
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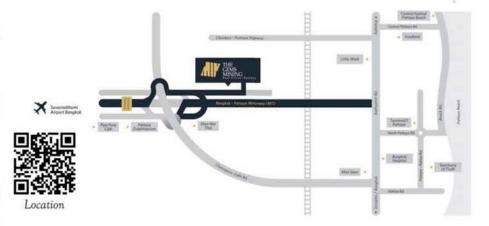


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PATTAYA

CONTRIBUTOR

Valencia Tong Rodney James Charman Kim Waddoup Kanchan Nath Sam Songpone Siriwanlert Gloria Jones Steve Wade Mark Lloyd Barry Upton Rick Click Willem Lasonder Panadda karen Taraponkiree

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This Month in Discover Pattaua

Are you ready for this?

Well, are you? Because all the signs indicate that this month we will have a fullon Songkran special! There's a pent up demand for an all-out water-throwing festival after the somewhat subdued events of the last couple of years. Plus the addition of Rolling Loud happening at Legend Siam, all pointing towards April 2023 in Pattaya being quite something!

There promises to be plenty of thrills and hopefully not too many spills for everyone who enjoys Songkran and for those who prefer to just batten down the hatches and stay indoors please go to our What's on pages for some ideas for TV Viewing, Or you can look at spending some time in the garden inspired by our trends for 2023 on page 58.

For those looking to celebrate in a more family-friendly way, why not take a break at the beautiful Castaway zone featured on our cover this month? It's a brand new pool and leisure area within the very oasis that is Gems Mining Pools Resort, which is just by highway 7 and a fantastic place to escape from all the chaos of central Pattaya.

Have a great month everyone, please stay safe and take extra care on the roads - especially if you travel by bike. Gloria x

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SONGKRAN Are you ready for this? By Steve Wade

centralfes

After a couple of years during the pandemic when the Thai new year celebrations were put on hold, you can be sure that Songkran will return with a vengeance this year. It looks very much like the festivities will start around the 13th of April and will certainly go through until the "official" Pattaya Songkran day, which is the 19th. The return of the madness will bring a mixed reaction I'm sure and the dividing line normally is that the longer you have been here, the less enthusiastic you are.



The exodus of some of the Thai population in the city to return to their home villages and celebrate with their families will ensure the shutdown of many businesses and the influx of thousands of holidaymakers who will arrive with the express purpose of drinking as much as possible whilst throwing water over everyone in sight on the streets of the city will have the long term expats running for cover, both figuratively and literally!



The major attraction over the holiday is the massive music festival, Rolling Loud, being held at the new "Legend Siam" attraction in Na Jomtien. This is probably the biggest event ever put together in Thailand and even an old man like myself has heard of the headliners. I have no idea what size the crowds will be but a minimum of 20,000 plus revellers is expected, with the possibility of an actual figure some way North of that. This is the first time the Rolling Loud hip-hop festival has ventured into Asia after the cancellation of the original event in Hong Kong due to the pandemic in 2019.

This really is some logistical task that the authorities in Pattaya have taken on and it will be interesting to see how they cope and what effect that will have on any future plans to bring major events to Pattaya, and indeed Thailand. This is not a festival where people will be attending and staying at the site, so we have the prospect of not only a massive influx of people seeking accommodation for the three days but those same people travelling back to that accommodation, probably in the early hours of the morning. It's hard to imagine how the city's transport infrastructure will cope with such a task, especially given the fact that Pattaya will be extremely busy with Songkran revellers anyway.







I have seen many Songkran festivals in Pattaya over the years but I don't think anybody knows what to expect this time. Hopefully the powers that be are not in the same position and plans are in place to at least make sure the city doesn't come to a standstill. Perhaps the more cynical amongst you may think that things may not go too well, after some of the previous efforts by the authorities. I couldn't possibly comment but we can hope for the best.

Whatever your thoughts on the holiday, if you're staying in Pattaya for the duration expect a madhouse on the streets and get some provisions in to see you through. Good luck everyone!





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A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU AT BRUNO'S

For those of us who have lived in Pattaya for some time, Anders, or Andy, as he is known to many, is a recognised host on the city's dining scene. Previously at News Restaurants, his TV commercial always started with a resounding "Welcome", and he was well known for being able to make a great Margarita.

Now Anders and his team at Thappraya Road will ensure you have a warm welcome and fantastic food when you step inside Bruno's. The recently reopened restaurant and wine bar is already making quite a name for itself with tremendous value 2-for-1 evenings and Sunday buffets, but we were there to discover the full evening experience.

So off to a great start our amuse bouche was a delicious serving of creamy potato salad someone must have said this is my favourite guilty pleasure! Then we tried a Margarita - just to check if it was still as good and yes, I can confirm that the mixologist at Bruno's makes a great Margarita. We also tried a beautifully refreshing "Purple Rain" one of the signature cocktails containing vodka, lime and berries highly recommended if like me, you prefer your cocktails not sweet but zesty and well blended.

The ambience inside Bruno's is excellent. Glass partitioned, it has a cocktail bar in front of the perfectly lit dining area. Then, alongside an impressive wine cellar, there is a separate dining room ideal for parties. Anders told me they had hosted a large gathering the night before where guests decided to select and share 2 of everything on the menu!

Unobtrusive staff stay back at the edge of the room but diligently come to your table as soon as they see that service is required. This is an often overlooked skill but bad staff who hover, snatch plates away or leave diners unattended too long can be a serious setback to a fine dining experience. At Bruno's, Anders and his team have the balance exactly right.



So what about the food? Well as appetisers we decided to try the Beef Carpaccio and Lobster Bisque. The carpaccio was a pleasingly generous portion and the soup thick and creamy containing plenty of lobster meat.

We then shared a prawn, avocado and macadamia salad and although disappointed that there wasn't much evidence of macadamia, were pleased by the delicious inclusion of tender pieces of peach.

For the main event, we decided on Duck with an orange sauce and Pork Cordon Blue. The duck was succulent, had no fat, was perfectly pink in the middle and cut to just the right thickness.

The pork was served with carrot batons, chips and mange tout and was accompanied by a dark fruity gravy.

Just before dessert, we saw Anders doing the rounds of the tables checking that all was well and getting comments and opinions from his diners.

He insisted we try the desserts and so we opted for a beautifully presented creme brulee with mandarin and strawberry segments and a fresh, tangy raspberry sorbet with vanilla ice cream.

If you've yet to visit Bruno's, its on Thappraya road, Jomtien, one of Pattaya's very best dining streets and there is plenty of parking at the side.





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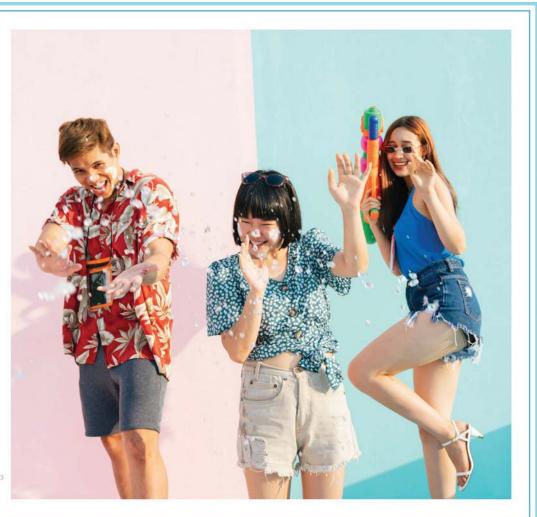


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Spectators also found it an idyllic spot from which to watch the matches and as you would expect from Royal Cliff Hotels there were some excellent refreshments.

These included freshly cooked food (with chef on site), ice creams, pastries and a selection of beverages







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THE RETURN OF PATTAYA – AND ITS RESTAURANTS

I think we can all agree that Pattaya has made a spectacular comeback since the pandemic virtually closed it down for the previous two years. Anyone who was here during that time will remember the way the city, and the businesses who tried to battle through it, suffered terribly at the hands of the endless shutdowns and the banning of international travel.

However, since the lifting of the restrictions the city has made a remarkable recovery, not least the restaurants and hotels who depend so much on a combination of local residents, weekend visitors from Bangkok and beyond and internatio nal travellers.

We here at Discover Pattaya have visited some of the restaurants and hotels over the last few months and it really is astounding what choice the city gives you and the range and variety of food being offered, at both low and high end prices.

One of the most enjoyable was a visit to the Movenpick Siam Hotel in Na Jomtien, where they have a "Fisherman BBQ Buffet" between 6pm – 10pm on Saturday evening. We sat down at 6pm and were bowled over by the choice of dishes available.





Of course, every type of fresh seafood was being served, which was highly praised by the shellfish and sushi lovers amongst us, but it was the variety of dishes through the whole range that was impressive. We even had a non-seafood eater amongst us but there was no complaints from them after seeing the meat dishes and charcuterie being offered, not to mention a wonderful array of dessert choices, accompanied by a chocolate fountain! Sitting in the restaurant looking out over the excellent family pool and onto the beach, it was certainly a memorable evening.

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Another venue where we were bowled over by the food and the setting was the beach club at The Pullman Pattaya. We decided on the "Grazing Board" for four people, which you have served to you whilst lazing on a bed looking out over the beach.

The quality and variety was excellent and was more than enough to satisfy the whole party. We also sampled the seafood buffet that is served every Friday and Saturday evening and this was another high quality offering, again not just for seafood lovers.





One of the restaurants we have been visiting for years now is Marco's on Thappraya Road, and over all that time I doubt the food has ever let us down. Our latest meal there was as good as ever and the quality of the food, the excellent staff and the attention to detail from Marco himself has made this one of the busiest and best loved eateries in the city.

The choices are continuously updated, with a new variety of pizza every month, and with the addition of various Thai infused dishes the menu has been given an added twist.

Speaking of Thai food, I find it impossible to recommend anywhere in particular as everywhere I go I enjoy! The quality of the local food is really something and this is what I believe makes Pattaya extraordinary in its choice of places to eat. No matter what budget you are on, you can find something to suit you and being able to mix up the more upmarket international food with some of the local offerings make eating out in Pattaya a continuous pleasure.



You can rest assured that like us, many of the long term residents here will have there "go to" places where the food is always good and the prices don't break the bank, and finding a new one is always a pleasure. It really is good to see the big hotels, bars, restaurants and local businesses busy again and with Songkran officially back in full swing I think Pattaya can look forward to a much improved 2023.



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UPDATE AND A MESSAGE FROM Khun gio of take care kids



Hello everyone, as you know we are building our new Family House in Huay Yai locality in Pattaya. Work began two months ago and we are already well advanced. To finish the work and to furnish the new Family Home we still need 1 million and 100 thousand baht. To all those who donate for this purpose we will name a plaque that we will affix inside the boundary wall as a perennial memory. Attached you will find some photos of the work completed so far for our new Family Home which will have space for 40 children and single mothers. If you can share and help us to achieve our dream.



Please make donations to: Kasikorn Bank: Account Numbers: 584-2-05272-8 Account Name: Take Care Kids Thailand Foundation





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One of the main advantages of strength-based education is that it creates a more engaging and fulfilling learning experience for students. When students are encouraged to explore their interests and passions, they become more invested in their education. They are more likely to be motivated, curious, and enthusiastic about learning. In addition to promoting student engagement, strength-based education also helps to cultivate a growth mindset. Students are encouraged to see challenges as opportunities for growth and to use their strengths to overcome obstacles. This approach fosters resilience and a sense of empowerment, which can have a positive impact on students' academic and personal lives. Moreover, strength-based education helps to develop a more positive school culture. When teachers focus on students' strengths, they create a more supportive and collaborative learning environment. Students feel valued and appreciated, which promotes a sense of community and belonging.

At Odyssey we believe that a strength-based education offers a more comprehensive and effective approach to learning. By recognizing and developing students' strengths, we can create a more engaging, fulfilling, and empowering learning experience. This approach will have a profound impact on our students' success and overall well-being supporting them to become positive, resilient, pioneers of the future.



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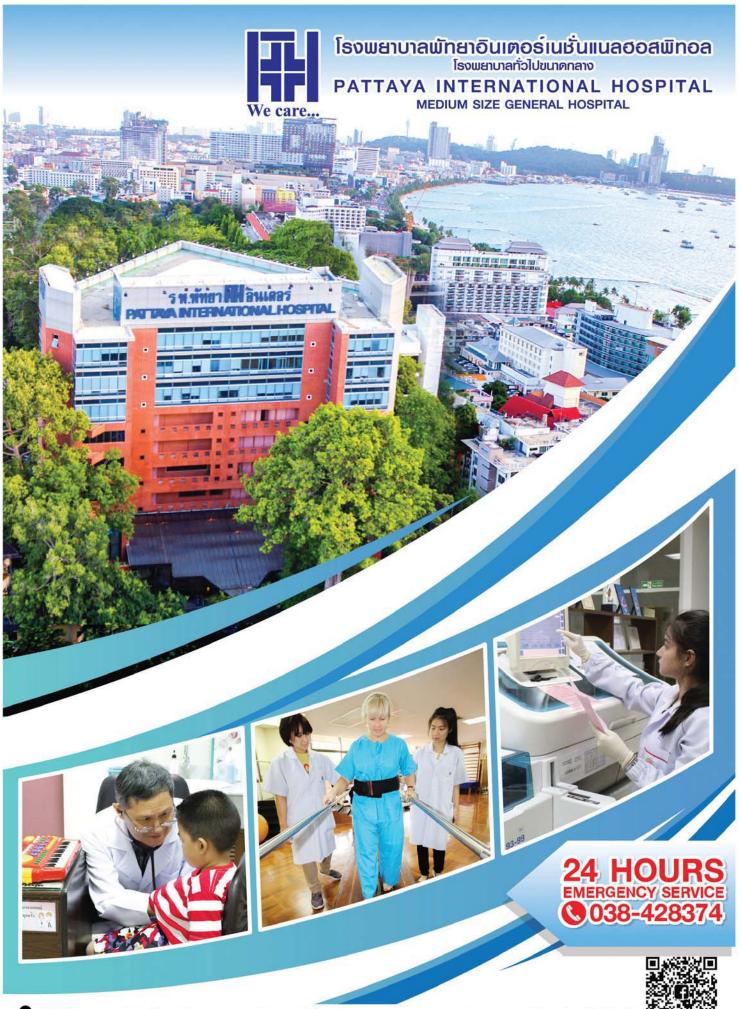
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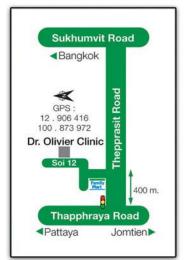




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There are many opticians in Pattaya and quite often on our Facebook sites Pattaya Trader - Discover Pattaya and Pattaya Trader Expat Ladies Group we are asked to give recommendations. Asian Optical on Pratumnak Soi 4 is the only one we recommend. This is because unlike some other opticians that are little more than shops selling glasses in Pattaya Asian Optical can give you a proper eye test and they also have a fantastic selection of frames, lenses and contact lenses.





Contact Khun Charn for an appointment 091 7499965 and remember that if you wear contact lenses you need to take them out at least 3 hours before you are due to take your test. FB Asian Optical email V_impress@hotmail.com Soi 4, Pratumnak, Pattaya, Chon Buri Telephone 081 001 0418

APRIL SPORTS UPDATE

By Steve Wade.

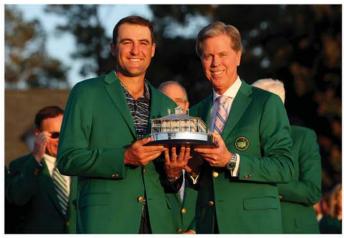
This month continues the great list of events that sports fans have to look forward to and top of the list is the playing of the first golf "major" of the year, the Masters at Augusta National.

The only major to be played at the same venue every year, the field will be packed with the best players in the world and is certainly most golf fans idea of a "must see" event on TV, in spite of the horrendous time difference for us locals!



The Premier League has a packed programme throughout the month and every weekend has a full fixture list, not to mention some extra midweek matches. Their will only be around four games left after April and the potential champion and relegation candidate issues will become much clearer afterwards.





At the top Arsenal are five points clear of Manchester City at time of writing after having a mid season wobble and these two look likely to fight it out for the title, although Manchester United are in a rich vein of form and if both of the top two stumble, they will be there to pick up the pieces.

The World Snooker Championship starts on the 15th, with the final being played on its traditional day, Mayday bank holiday in the UK which this year is actually falling on Monday the 1st of May.



F1 has two outings in April, with the Australian GP being run on the 2nd of the month and the Azerbaijan race taking place on the 30th.

For horseracing fans the Grand National, the worlds most famous steeplechase, takes place on Saturday the 15th. The culmination of a three day meeting that many fans are saying is beginning to rival Cheltenham as the best jumps meeting of the season, the race attracts a TV audience of many hundreds of millions around the world and is by far the biggest betting day of the year in the UK, when everyone chances their arm at picking the winner!

 Well that's about it for April. I think you'll agree there's something for everyone this month.

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A FABULOUS TIME HAD BY ALL AT PINK POLO





































Thank you Rodney James Charman for the photos

DISCOVER GOLF 📍 DISCOVER GOLF 📍 DISCOVER GOLF



THE LGPA HONDA CLASSIC 2023

It looks like Thailand has unearthed another female golf star in the shape of 20yr old Natthakritta Vongtaveelap, who made a huge impression on her tour debut at this year's LGPA Honda Classic, played as usual at the Soi Siam Country Club old course just outside Pattaya.

She had not gone unnoticed by some people here in Thailand, as she had been runner-up in the Asia-Pacific amateur tournament in both 2021 and 2022 and since turning professional recently had added a couple of wins on the local Thai Tour.

It turned out that one of those local wins had earned her an invitation to the LGPA Honda Classic, a Rolex event and one of the premier tournaments on the LGPA schedule. The field was stacked with great players, including four of the current top five in the world and this was a baptism of fire on the big stage for her first LGPA event.

Having played some beautiful golf over the first three days, Natthakritta found herself in the position of going out last with a four shot lead on the final Sunday of the event and playing alongside her childhood friend and current world number four, Atthaya Thitikul, must have been a welcome bonus as the nerves started to jangle!

It wouldn't be fair to say that she gave the tournament away from the position she was in as it took a last round 64, the best of the day, from American Lilia Vu who started six shots back, to win the tournament by a single shot.

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However, her round of 71 was the worst in the top 25 on the day, a perfectly understandable performance given it was her first full professional appearance. Her outright second place finish with a final score of 267, 21 under par, which earned her over 150,000 US dollars, was a great achievement playing amongst the world's elite.

I think Thailand has found a new top quality player here to go alongside many others that have come through over recent years. If you're a golf fan do try to get along to the LGPA Honda Classic next year, it really is a chance to see some of the best players in the world close up on a magnificent golf course and really should be supported.



DISCOVER MOTORING 🙈 DISCOVER MOTORING



The 2023 F1 season has started with a dominant performance by Red Bull in Bahrain where Max Verstappen, the number one driver, beat his team mate Sergio Perez by 11 seconds with the rest well beaten off. George Russell, who drives for Mercedes, has publicly declared that Red Bull "have the title sewn up" and continued "I don't think anyone is going to be fighting with them this year. I expect they will win every single race this season". A sad state of affairs for Mercedes, the other teams involved and the millions of F1 fans around the globe.

One glimmer of hope that has been partially dashed already by the Bahrain result is the fact that Red Bull have a 10% wind tunnel time penalty for a breach of the cost cap on top of the already limited time they have available after winning the title last year.

to test the car in conditions similar to the actual race in the wind tunnel is strictly regulated by the powers that be and because of the restrictions on Red Bull it may be that the other team's car development through the season develops better. Although if you believe the bookmaking industry, this is a faint chance indeed.





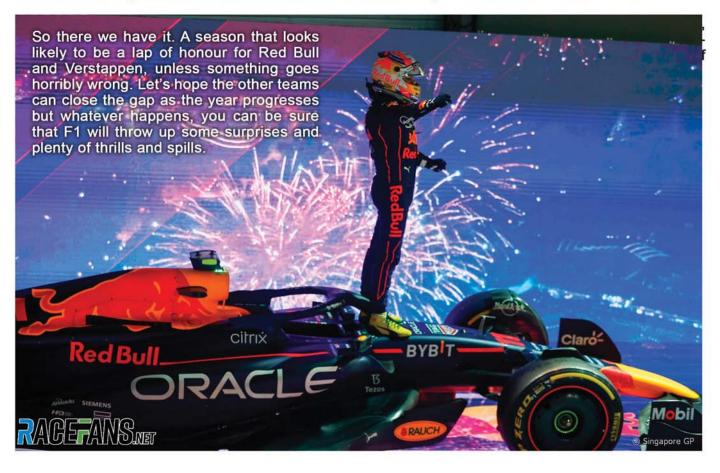
DISCOVER MOTORING 🙈 DISCOVER MOTORING

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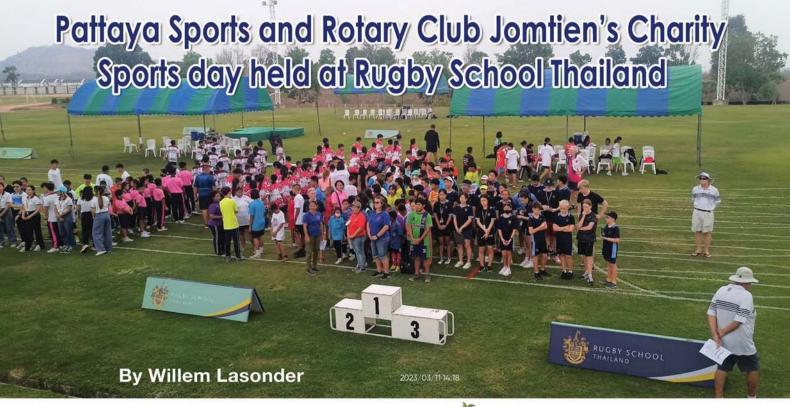


There are some interesting things happening in the coming F1 season, in spite of the overwhelming superiority of Red Bull. A record number of 23 races are set to be run and that would have been 24 until the cancellation of the Chinese race and the decision not to replace it. However, the real talking point of the season will be the first staging of the Las Vegas Grand Prix in November. This is really ambitious stuff from both the city and the F1 organisers and it looks like the Vegas edition of F1 is trying to become the main attraction on the calendar. A massive paddock is being constructed in the city and the course itself will include the famous "Vegas strip" as the main straight, creating a spectacle that few, if any, sports can match.

The USA is staging three races this year including the usual leg at the "home" of F1 in the States, Austin Texas. Miami is the third venue and this year's race will be the second of a ten-year contract. One amazing innovation for the race is that the paddock is going to be built inside the Hard Rock Stadium, with spectators allowed in to watch the whole thing from the stands. Incredible stuff.



DISCOVER MOTORING 🙈 DISCOVER MOTORING





Last month Pattaya Sports Club and Rotary Club Jomtien arranged for five orphanages to attend a sports day at Rugby School, Thailand. Over 180 underprivileged children turned up fully kitted out and ready for action in what turned out to be a fantastic day for all concerned

The activities included 100 meter, 200 meter and 400 meter relay, high Jump, Javelin and 5 a-side football with two age groups of 10 - 12 and 13 - 15. There were six tents for water stations that also doubled up as a home base for the teams.

The event itself was held in great spirits by the students who were very competitive with great standards competing for medals galore. Each event was well supported with the children loudly cheering on their own teams.



Rugby School THAILAND



















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DISCOVER PATTAYA

We would like to express our gratitude to Rugby School Thailand for their generosity in allowing us to use their fantastic facilities, including all the required equipment, and for their organisation on the day. A huge thank you must also go out to John Holland and his staff, including 11 senior students and 9 prep students, for their hard work which made the day a great success.

The event started at 2 p.m. and ended at 5.20 p.m. Halfway through the tournament the students received drinks and snacks. The weather was also kind giving an overcast sky that made conditions ideal.

Afterwards, all those attending, including the 180 children and all the staff from the orphanages, went on to Wisdom Valley for a buffet. The food was enjoyed by everyone and the children left at approximately 7 p.m. fully fed and happy.

A special thanks to Joy Lasonder who did a great job with the Microphone keeping the activities flowing. Also a big thank you must go out to all our sponsors for supporting this charity event. It was such a success we are hoping to repeat it as an annual event.







JEANNEAU LAUNCHES MERRY FISHER KING

At the 63rd Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show Jeanneau's Merry Fisher 1295 Fly earned a nomination in the Best of Show awards. There are a host of new features that clearly separate it from the former series flagship. Firstly, it has three engines, not two, while the flybridge has a full seating area for up to five guests.

The foredeck is a properly developed social area with integrated sun loungers and it has almost 47 per cent more fuel, giving another indication of the step up in scale.

Equipped with triple 300hp Yamaha outboard engines, the Merry Fisher 1295 Fly looks powerful, sleek and modern. It provides more space for entertaining family, friends and guests can also serve as a dedicated spot for suntanning or reading, and is the best place for jumping into the water.

Whether it's taking a nap under the sun or sitting there watching family members or friends swim, paddleboard or kayak, this is an ideal spot.

The model features Groupe Beneteau's Seanapps technology, which has been included on all new Jeanneau yachts since September 2021. The system allows the owner to monitor data about the yacht through a smartphone app. They include safety information such as the GPS position, battery level, tank levels, bilge levels and engine data; trip information such as distance covered, speeds and depth; as well as temperature and humidity inside.

There are also options to install tropical-strength air-conditioning (36,000 BTU), yet another reason why the new series flagship could prove popular in Asia.

Words by Valencia Tong Pictures from Jeanneau www.jeanneau.com This edited article is republished by kind permission of





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GLORIA TALKS TO MR ANTHONY JUSTICE OF MAGNA CARTA LAW FIRM

Mr Anthony Justice has been living in Thailand for 27 years. He first came here because his next-door neighbour in the UK opened a bar in Pattaya and invited Tony to come over to see it. After a couple of holidays here, he decided to follow suit and open some of his own bars. As Tony explains, at that time Pattaya was little more than a fishing village so there was very little for foreigners to do here other than just own bars.

Fast forward some 8 years and as the city began to grow a law firm by the name of Magna Carta was formed to help more and more expats and foreign residents with their legal requirements and problems. Tony was asked to come and join but as he will immediately tell you he is not a lawyer but became one of the first foreigners to work here in a law firm. Magna Carta is now celebrating over 20 years in existence and during all his time with them Tony has been employed as a liaison officer and sales and marketing director. This is a vital position within Magna Carta as approximately 95% of their clients are foreign as opposed to Thai Nationals.

During all this time at Magna Carta Tony has obviously garnered a great deal of experience through following cases and transactions in order to be able to give his advice and opinion. Of course, this is backed up by a large contingent of staff at Magna Carta and as Tony says if he doesn't know the answer he can direct the client to one of the 20 on-site lawyers who do. In addition, there are 5 members devoted to accounting, 4 who handle the firm's marketing and a recently formed Chinese division. In fact, the combined languages spoken by the Magna Carta staff include Chinese, Thai, English, Russian and German



During his time here Tony has seen many changes with Pattaya's hedonistic past evolving into a proper city with organised and enforced rules and regulations. Also as someone who has seen the holding cells from "the right side," he can absolutely confirm that shock tactics are used. Sharing a space with 30-40 people crammed together and usually with just one shared toilet will definitely ensure that even after just one night, you will never want to return.

Magna Carta are a law firm that do everything by the book. As Tony says "Everything has a process and we follow that process. We make sure problems can't happen rather than trust that they won't happen".

Magna Carta helps their clients negotiate the law and understand any of the new rulings and new methodology. They will carry out due diligence to make sure every eventuality is covered. Be it with a legal case, last will and testament, property transaction or loan agreement. After all, with the city's propensity for keyboard warriors and self-styled "bar room lawyers" - wouldn't you want an informed opinion and the correct legal advice? If so I heartily recommend you speak to Tony and the team at Magna Carta.





SETTING-UP A COMPANY IN THAILAND

The most common structure and ideal initial step in starting a new business in Thailand is a Thai Limited Company. A limited company is that kind formed with a capital divided into equal shares. The shareholders' liability is limited to the amount of, if any, unpaid shares held by them.

COMPANY STRUCTURE

The structure of a Thai company has to consist of 1 or more director and a minimum of 2 shareholders. In Thai Limited Company shareholding, the company must be majority owned by Thais. This means that foreign ownership of the company cannot be more than 49%. Foreigners can hold 100% ownership of businesses in non-restricted categories, such as exporting businesses and certain types of manufacturing businesses. Other methods to obtain 100% non-Thai control are through application for an alien business license or Board of Investment (BOI) Promotion.

CAPITAL

A limited company in Thailand can be set up with only a few thousand Baht; however, the average declared capital is 1M Baht. Should the company intend to employ foreigners who are required to secure a work permit; the company must have a minimum paid up capital of 2 Million Baht for every foreign employee.

REQUIREMENTS

Reserving your desired company name is the first step and prerequisite in the establishment of a Thai limited company.

By: Magna Carta Law Firm

The proposed name shall be approved upon confirmation that it is distinct from any other registered company names. Your company will also need a registered office address in Thailand. This will determine what relevant government agencies you should be interacting with. Registered business address is also necessary before the company can apply for a Tax Registration Number.

All companies in Thailand have to be registered for tax purposes and must obtain a company income tax identity card from the Revenue Department within 60 days of incorporation or start of operation. Same as all other business forms, once established, a limited company must also follow accounting procedures specified in the Revenue, Civil and Commercial Code. Companies are required to file their audited financial statements once a year with the Department of Business Development and the Revenue Department.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Starting a new business in Thailand may become challenging due to language barriers and may take several days to complete the entire process. Because all legal documents are written in Thai, filling out these forms without understanding their contents or Thailand Law might result in major challenges and other issues that will have an impact on you and your business. In order to get comprehensive guidance and advise on how your company should be established, it is crucial to look for reputable lawyers and consultants with legal qualifications and real-world experience.



- LEGAL SERVICES
 ACCOUNTING SERVICES
- ➢ LOAN ASSISTANCE
- COMPANY FORMATION
- > DUE DILIGENCE
 - VISA & WORK PERMIT
- > NOTARY SERVICES



DISCOVER PATTAYA

WETFLIX What's on The Small Screen



Two strangers are involved in a road rage incident that quickly develops into a feud.

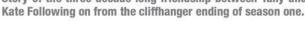


Transatlantic

A period drama that tells the story of an American journalist who travels to Nazi-occupied France.



Firefly Lane (The Final Chapter) Story of the three decade long friendship between Tully and





The Afterparty

A school reunion ends in a murder mystery when everyone is suspected.



The last thing he told me After her husband disappears Hannah develops an unexpected relationship with her 16 year old stepdaughter.



Fatal Attraction

The lives of Dan Gallagher and his wife Beth are threatened after Dan tries to end an affair.



What's on The Big Screen



Super Mario Bros

Chris Pratt, Anya Taylor-Joy, Jack Black, Seth Rogen, Charlie Day Mario and Princess Peach try to stop the villainous Bowser from taking over the world.



Adam Driver, Ariana Greenblatt, Nika King, Chloe Coleman, Brian Dare An astronaut crashes on what he thought was an alien planet but discovers he's actually on Earth 65 million years ago.



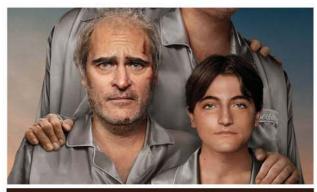
Russell Crowe, Ralph Ineson, Franco Nero, Alex Essoe The story of the real-life priest father Gabriele Amorth who was the Vatican's chief exorcist.



Renfield Nicolas Cage, Nicholas Hoult, Ben Schwartz, Adrian Martinez After years of serving his narcissistic vampire boss, Dracula Renfield seeks a new life.



Operation Fortune : Ruse de guerre Jason Stratham, Cary Elwes, Hugh Grant, Lourdes Faberes Super spy Orson Fortune tries to stop the sale of some deadly new weapons technology.



Beau is Afraid Joaquin Phoenix, Parker Posey, Amy Ryan, Richard Kind A deeply troubled man sets out on a surreal journey home after his mother suddenly dies.

BALMUDA The Speaker Portable Bluetooth Speaker



BALMUDA The Speaker is a portable Bluetooth speaker that delivers clear, immersive 3D sound with advanced digital signal processing technology. It also features a built-in ambient light with five modes to enhance your listening experience. Its compact design and long battery life make it perfect for on-the-go listening. Overall, it's a high-quality and versatile speaker for music lovers who want great sound and style.

Segway Ninebot S Smart Electric Scooter

Offers a sleek and efficient mode of transportation for short commutes and urban adventures. With a powerful electric motor and a top speed of 10 mph, the scooter can cover up to 13.7 miles on a single charge. Its compact and lightweight design allows for easy portability, and its built-in Bluetooth speakers add an extra element of fun to your ride.





Tag Heuer Connected Calibre E4

The Tag Heuer Connected Calibre E4 is a luxury smartwatch that combines the style and craftsmanship of a traditional technology. It features a highresolution touchscreen display and a suite of sensors that track fitness metrics and provide real-time updates. With built-in GPS and NFC connectivity, the watch can track your location and make mobile payments on the go. The watch is water-resistant and built to withstand the rigors of daily wear.





HTC Vive Flow VR Glasses

The HTC Vive Flow VR Glasses offer a next-level immersive experience for virtual reality enthusiasts. The glasses are ultra-lightweight and designed to fit comfortably for extended use. With a high-resolution display and crystal-clear audio, users can fully immerse themselves in their virtual environment. The glasses come with built-in gesture controls and a touchpad for easy navigation, making the experience seamless and intuitive. Whether you're gaming or exploring, the HTC Vive Flow VR Glasses are a must-have for anyone looking to take their VR experience to the next level.



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After being a top U.K. nightclub DJ/presenter and producing a fair amount of dance music in the late 80s, the early 90s presented a new challenge for me. The onset of Rave and Electro music wasn't my cup of tea and when the fun went out of being a personality DJ, being asked by club owners to just shut up and mix two identical tracks together, I decided to look elsewhere for fulfillment.

So, whilst driving on a vacation to Florida U.S.A., I tuned into a New Country radio station and loved everything they played. The songwriting was pure and melodic with tracks crossing over into rock, soul and pop. This was right up my street so I returned to the U.K. armed with a plethora of recorded cassette tapes I'd gleaned from the K92.3 local Orlando radio station.

In my career up to this point, I'd touched on the country music genre in writing sessions with my mentor and Brotherhood Of Man manager Tony Hiller who'd written countless melodic hits, so I knew a bit about how to write a country song and had, indeed had a few chart hits myself at this point.

However, on regular visits to country capitol Nashville, it was like starting again as songwriters I was paired up with taught me new lessons in the art of lyric writing. I gratefully grasped at the opportunities offered and tirelessly worked at producing good modern country rock/pop tracks.





The biggest problem though was that U.S. artists already had their regular songwriters, many composing their own tracks so opportunities were limited. I smooched with many top country artists at that time including Shania Twain but came to a dead end as, like her, they were already overloaded with great songs.

However, in the U.K. and the rest of the world, the popularity of New Country music was spreading together with the rise of Line Dancing which in the late 90s became the second most popular U.K. pastime (Bingo was the 1st).

So it was that I became one of the only U.K. music producers to be providing tracks for Line Dance compilation albums and actually received a silver disc for the No. 1 Line Dance album alongside many hits from the U.S.A.

The next step was to get onto CMT which was an MTV for country fans (Country Music TV). I played some of my songs to one of CMT's producers in Nashville and a couple of tracks were chosen. I made the videos and, lo and behold to my amazement, became a HOT SHOT and was played almost every hour. This was a big achievement and considerably elevated my status as a New Country artist/songwriter.

Check out on YouTube: 'Hey, You On The Radio' and 'I'm Still Falling', both from 1997.

Around this time, many people were suggesting to me I write a commercial pop Line Dancing song. After some serious head scratching, I came up with the now worldwide classic hit 5,6,7,8 and the rest is history.

So, that's the story of my 'Gone Country' years in the 90s. It was pure joy for me to be asked last month to perform a New Country Line Dancing set at Sandbar by the Sea on Dongtan Beach, Pattaya and rekindle the music from that time. Like the Beatles and 60s music, all these songs have retained their popularity and are a refreshing change from the banality of much of today's new music.

Check out Barry Upton's dedicated YouTube music channel FAB BAZ MUSIC TV. Please 'like' and 'subscribe' for future new addition notifications.





CROSS WORD APRIL 2023

1. Dainty

3. Finished

4. Blueprint

6. Frolic

9. Mop

10. Drag

11. Fiend

15. Tether

game fish

23. Miserly

7. Worship

2. Valuable ore deposit

5. Coloring substance

8. Asian pepper plant

12. Leguminous plant

21. Large food and

25. Administer or

Across

1. Trudge

- 5. Dreary
- 9. Retail outlet
- 13. Wander
- 14. Warble
- 16. Remuneration
- 17. Part of the Roman calendar
- 18. Play or represent
- 19. Nimbus
- 20. Virtue
- 22. Introduction
- 24. Type of tree
- 26. Additional
- 27. French film festival
- 30. Temper or season
- 35. Place
- 36. Book of maps
- 39. Currency of Nigeria
- 40. Woodwind instrument
- 42. Bird of prey
- 44. Heat up
- 45. Ocean vessel
- 47. Exuviate
- 49. Fish eggs
- 50. Nocturnal wildcat
- 52. One who suffers for the
- sake of principle
- 54. Sagolike starch

57. Novel

- 58. Part of a grandfather clock
- 62. Meat cooked on a skewer
- 66. Promise
- 67. Narrow length of leather
- 69. Solitary
- 70. Song for solo voice
- 71. Path
- 72. Ballot
- 73. Religious order
- 74. Friend
- 75. Ruler or chiefain

Down

out 27. Having three dimensions 28. Expiate 29. Close violently 31. Uncooked 32. Personal journal 33. Mistake 34. Epithet 35. Game played on horseback 37. In the past 38. Shantytown 41. Long fish 43. Panache 46. Route

48. Journey

53. Roman XII 55. Radical 56. Wall painting 58. Small opening in the skin

51. Reliance

- 59. Long narrative poem
- 60. Orderly
- 61. Post
- 63. Economic prosperity
- 64. Opposing
- 65. Alcoholic beverage
- 66. Possesses
- 68. Travel a route regularly

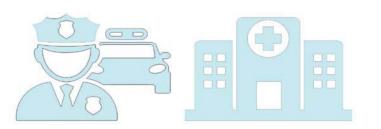
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SOLUTIONS ARE ON PAGE 49

SUDOKU APRIL 2023

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IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS



POLICE

Emergency Hotline: 191 Pattaya Police Station: Soi 9 Pattaya Phone: 038 420- 802, 038-420 805 0-3842-9325 Banglamung Police Station,Sukhumvit Highway) Phone: 038 221 800, 038 221 331 Tourist Police:Phratamnak Road Emergency Hotline: 1155 Phone 03841 4669, 03842 5937,

AMBULANCE AND HOSPITALS

General emergency number 191 can be used or 1669 Pattaya International Hospital PhoneTel: 038 428 374-5. Tel: 038-427 575 Bangkok Hospital Pattaya PhoneTel: 038-259-999. 0-3825-9911 Pattaya Memorial Hospital PhoneTel: 038 488 777. 038-429 422

FIRE

Emergency Phone: 199 Fire Brigade Pattaya PhoneTel: 038-425-943, Fire Brigade Naklua PhoneTel: 038-221-000,

SEA RESCUE

Marine Police Phone. 038-423 666 Sea Rescue Phone 038-488 134

ELECTRICITY

Electricity Pattaya Phone 0-3842-6463, 0-3842-8502 Electricity Banglamung Phone 0-3822-1007

WATER

Water Works Banglamung Phone 0-3822-1463 Water Works Pattaya Phone 0-3822-2462/5

WASTE DISPOSAL

Garbage Collection Phone 0-3842-9494



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What's our commitment?

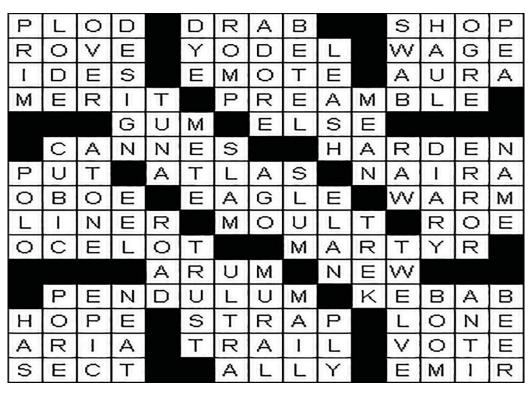
- We will continue to build the BBX Business community providing sustainable opportunities focused on business needs
- We will support business initiatives and partnerships, nurturing them in parallel with new ideas.
- We will provide a secure financial platform for transaction management

Your Commitment?

- Our business community transacts via business trade credits. A willingness to be part of this extra revenue stream
- Our community of business owners connects and supports each other via fair trading terms, an understanding that strong relationships prosper with respect

Reach out to us, we are here to help all business grow! www.bbxworld.com

SOLUTIONS CROSSWORD PAGE 46



HARD

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If you missed Part 1 of Kim's Positive Highlights of Koh Samui that was in the March edition of Discover Pattaya - you can still read it online by visiting pattayatrader.com Ed

We followed the coast road south to Thong Krut Pier for a wonderful noodle breakfast where we were talked into a boat excursion to the nearby Ko Mat Sum and Tean Islands. It is just a short long-tail boat ride out to Koh Mat Sum or Mad Sum Paradise. Sadly now a.k.a Pig Island! Whilst there is a rather cute story of how the pigs supposedly arrived, it is purely a tourist attraction which was hardly needed for this island paradise.

There is a 'landing fee' of THB.100 but this includes 2 bottles of water. Apart from the amusing but rather pungent hogs, the area of the island fulfils every expectation of a tropical island with soft white sand, crystal clear water blue skies and puffy white clouds. I am not a fan of organised boat excursions but I did enjoy this visit and opportunity to take some memorable photos.





The second part of the boat trip was snorkelling off Tean Island. We jumped in to be surrounded by fish that soon disappeared when the captain stopped throwing in bread, what a sad scam. Also beware of the current as we soon found ourselves a long way from the boat despite all attempts to swim back. It was a pleasant boat trip but again sadly over-commercialised for gullible tourists. Back on dry land we completed our loop by returning to Lamai beach for our last night on Samui.

With all our travels in Thailand for the past two turbulent years we have never had the need to book in advance. As we were undecided about where to stay we chose to check out a possible hotel only to find that the room that we were viewing had just been booked online and the alternative was not acceptable. However this was to our advantage in Samui as we booked a Pool Cottage at the rather run down but nonetheless charming Lamai Chalet for THB.885. A resort on the southern end of Lamai, it is a bit scruffy at the time of staying, but full of character with a beach bar directly overlooking the sea. Again the resort provided sun-beds and towels on the beach so we could enjoy a last swim and questionable dinner in a nearby resort.

After 4 enjoyable nights and days full of memorable experiences it was time to conclude our Koh Samui trip and make our way to the Seatran Ferry for the return to Surat Thani. The ferry cost just THB.550 for the car and 1 passenger and we were positively surprised with the quality and cleanliness of the Seatran Ferry, even serving a reasonable, freshly made espresso!. It was a lovely crossing over the glass like sea.









To summarise, Koh Samui is a lovely island and I can see what many will go just for a few nights in one of the upscale resorts.

The commercial areas are accommodating but if you are looking for a special island adventure make your way to the West and South of the island. Travel around these areas and you will be able to enjoy a truly relaxing and original island experience.

For more from Kim Waddoup visit his website https://Meanderingtales.com



EXPERIENCE SAUDI

By Kanchan Nath

There are few places in the world where visitors can feel like true explorers, charting the unknown with unexpected experiences. Saudi is one of tourism's final frontiers and home to a world waiting to be discovered. Saudi's awe-inspiring natural phenomena beckons travellers to venture into unspoilt landscapes and experience adrenaline, culture, and history off the beaten tourist track. From diving in the Red Sea, camping in starlight silence, or paragliding over snowy mountain peaks, Saudi inspires a sense of wanderlust, enticing the most adventurous travellers to experience the authentic home of Arabia.

Wadi Disah, the Valley of Palm Trees, is a spectacular and secluded natural wonder in the mountainous region of Saudi's northern Tabuk province. The valleys are surrounded by high mountains, the pristine Red Sea and luscious greenery – a striking contrast to the surrounding Saudi desert.

The region has rare archaeological sites, including carvings and tombs in the sandstone, and is best explored off-roading in a 4X4 vehicle.

Saudi has some of the most diverse landscapes, but none is more dramatic, expansive or synonymous with the authentic home of Arabia than its desert. Saudi is home to the largest sand desert on earth and the Empty Quarter crossing is a journey of a lifetime. In the Empty Quarter, visitors can experience adrenaline-pumping activities like dune-bashing, sandboarding and off-road 4×4 driving.



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After a busy day, adventures can relax under a starry expanse of the night sky on camel-back. Showcasing the best of Saudi hospitality, or Hafawah, the Empty Quarter is best experienced with certified tour guides.

AlUla, home to Saudi's first UNESCO World Heritage Site, lies deep in the desert in the northwest and hosts ancient tombs that remain as the legacy of 7,000 years of human civilization. In 2023, AlUla was voted one of Condé Nast's Seven Wonders of the World.







For divers Saudi's Red Sea coastline is one of the world's most spectacular and pristine spots. Here you can explore a treasure trove of coral reefs with stingrays, turtles, octopus and rare fish such as the world's fastest fish, the Black Marlin, and the endangered Napoleon fish. Also off the coast of Jeddah, Sharm Obhur offers an array of adventurous water activities including shark cage diving where the bravest adventurers can get close to the ocean's ultimate predator.

Or you may wish to explore the Al-Soudah mountains Saudi's highest point in the Asir region. The juniper tree-covered mountains have snowy peaks of over 3,000m, making it a popular paragliding and skydiving spot, while trails make it a playground for hikers, riders and bikers. To top off a long day, soak up the most unforgettable sunset at Al Soudah View Point, and enjoy views of surrounding valleys, hills and neighbouring villages.



Karen would like to tell you about

What do tourists and foreigners who live long term in Thailand need to know.

I have working with foreigner in Thailand for many years and I have been working on the Visa Services for 25 years. Through all those years experiences, I have found that a lot of people did not know what to do when their visa expire and still want to stay longer in Thailand. Some people confuse what is TM 30, what is 90 days report ? and why they have to do visa run? why can't they extend visa in Thailand? And some people even get so frustrate on extending visa.

So here are some answers that I can advice you.

- 1. TM 30 Now that the government required everyone who enter Thailand, must do a report where they are staying. The owner of the residency must report if they are not report, you yourself must report where you stay. This report need to be done within 24 hours on the date you arrived.
- 2. Report 90 days This report is for those who staying longer than 90 days or stay year by year. If you are on a year visa, you must do report every 90 days into immigration that you are still living in this address. You can report your 90 days 7 days before expire or after 7 days.
- 3. Visa Extention To extend your visa, you can do it at immigration only one time than you need to leave Thailand. For those who want just to do visa run one day in-out you can do visa run to neigbour countries. There are so many others information to know which I can't give it all here. If you are not sure on your situations, you can bring your passport and visit me at my office for more informations.

คาเรนอยากจะบอกว่า ...

สิ่งที่นักท่องเที่ยวและคนต่างชาติที่อยู่ระยะยาวในไทยควรรู้

n européenne blique française

ดิฉันทำงานกับคนต่างชาติมาที่อยู่ในประเทศไทยมาหลายปีและได้ให้บริการในการต่อวีซ่าต่างชาติมา 25 ปี จากประสบการณ์การทำงานนี้ ดิฉันพบว่ามีคนจำนวน มากที่ไม่รู้ว่าต้องทำอย่างไรเมื่อวีซ่าหมดอายุและต้องการต่อวีซ่าอยู่อีกสักพักแต่ไม่รู้จะต่ออย่างไร หลายคนก็สับสนว่า ตม. 30 คืออะไร การรายงานตัว 90 วันคือ อะไร แล้วทำไมต้องออกไปวีซ่ารัน ทำไมไม่ต่อในประเทศไทย? หลายๆคนก็เครียดกับการไปต่อวีซ่า ฉะนั้น ดิฉันก็จะแนะนำคร่าวๆว่า

- 1. ตม. 30 เป็นการรายงานที่พักเมื่อเดินทางมาถึงประเทศ ซึ่งปัจจุบันรัฐบาลขอให้ทุกคนที่เดินทางมาประเทศไทยต้องรายงาน การรายงานตม. 30 นี้ ปกติ เจ้าบ้านต้องรายงานให้กับผู้ที่เข้ามาพัก หากเจ้าบ้านไม่ได้ทำ เจ้าตัวต้องทำเอง และการรายงานที่พักนี้ต้องรายงานภายใน 24 ชั่วโทง
- 2. การรายงานตัว 90 วัน อันนี้สำหรับคนที่อยู่เป็นปีหรืออยู่มากกว่า 90 วัน เป็นการรายงานตัวว่ายังอยู่และพักอยู่ที่นี่ ดังนั้นคนที่อยู่มากกว่า 90 วันใน ไทย ให้รายงานตัวกับตม. ทุกๆ 90 วัน
- 3. การต่อวีซ่า ในการต่อวีซ่า ต่างชาติกสามารถต่อที่ตมได้หนึ่งครั้ง หลังจากนั้น ต้องออกจากประเทศไทยไป สำหรับผู้ที่จะไปต่อวีซ่าหรือทำวีซ่ารันชายแดน วันเดียว ก็สามารถไปประเทศเพื่อนบ้านได้

ข้อมูลต้องรู้ยังมีอีกมากมาย ซึ่งดิฉันไม่อาจให้ได้ครบในนี้ หากไม่แน่ใจและต้องการข้อมูลเพิ่มเติม ให้นำหนังสือเดินทางและมาปรึกษาที่สำงานได้เลย ดิฉันยินดีดูให้

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<complex-block>

This article about home office conversion comes to Dot Property from Lazudi Commercial.

A commercial office space for some businesses may be necessary where they need space in which to operate but building or buying an office building often requires a large sum of money. Thus, turning a house into a home office becomes an attractive alternative as it can be more cost-effective.

Different types of houses can be turned into offices. Their limitations may depend on surrounding restrictions, for example lack of available parking spaces. In these cases a company may opt for one location in which to dispatch or receive supplies and a home office simply for preparation and storage of documents. Also most detached houses tend to be located in the suburbs, so more suitable when only 2-3 employees are on-site at the office.

When considering a house there may be other options to consider. For example, if your business is a start-up, buying or constructing a house may be too risky, so renting would be an option that uses less investment. If your company already has a fixed income and is financially stable, then buying is an attractive option especially if paying can be with a monthly mortgage loan. Businesses must prepare the following document to obtain a loan:

- A document stating that they have been in business for at least 2 years
- A bank statement for at least the last 6 months and commercial documents such as purchase and sales invoices, among others

Having a purpose built office would be suitable for those who want a specially designed home and office layout or their own land. These are documents that need to be prepared if you want to build a home office:

• Contact the contractor to design and agree on the price and construction contract. The contract usually specifies the conditions for reimbursement of construction costs in installments according to the progress of the construction.

• Apply for building permits from government agencies in the area, such as district offices, by bringing the plan layout to apply for a building permit.

• Apply for a loan with the bank; in addition to financial documents, other documents must be prepared, such as land layout, building contract, and construction permit.

Using a house as a home office can benefit the long run. Still, businesses should take into account various limitations according to the nature of the house, location, and business type. So, it is vital to be well-prepared and research information before finding your home office.



DISCOVER PATTAYA

TAX CORNER



This article is written for foreigners who wish to do business in Thailand.

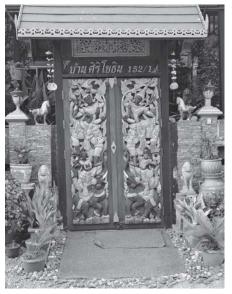
You need to be aware of the related Thai Laws that you must comply with such as Civil and Commercial Law as well as Taxation Law.

I hope this brief introduction will be beneficial for you to start your business in Thailand.

There are 4 basic things you should learn at the very beginning:

- 1. How to establish your juristic person as a corporation or limited partnership.
- Taxation concerns such as National Taxes (Corporate Income Tax, Value Added Tax or VAT and other business taxes) and Local Taxes (Municipality Taxes).
- 3. Qualifications of a juristic person who is eligible to run any Thai business.
- 4. Qualifications of a person who can work in Thailand.

Over the coming months, I will give you more details of the above mentioned items and recent changes that you need to be aware of. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need help with your accounts please feel free to contact me.



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"To live is the rarest thing in life. Most people just exist." Oscar Wilde

"Space is the ultimate freedom." Mendes Cavin, Founder & CEO of Deehiy. Deehiy believes in well planned space rather than the quantity of it, which goes against almost every principle of property development in Thailand where, until now, the number of bedrooms has been a more important criterion to buy property than its size or comfort. "We aim at creating spaces to unwind and rejuvenate from daily stress in a home where you feel comfortable and confident to host friends"

Casa Verde Villas consists of 8 secluded pool villas. 7 sit on a plot of 135 square wah (540 square meter), and 1 on a plot of 189 square wah (759 square meter). The standard house size is 435 square meters over two floors with 3 generously spacious bedrooms. Casa Verde Villas are designed with a yet unseen architecture, surrounded by greenery as the name would suggest. The biggest difference to the "usual" single house is the front of the building, which does not contain a large fence or brick wall but instead an open entrance showing the beauty of the building. Privacy, or security, however is not an issue, as the fence is set back further into the property and thus offers the same security or privacy as any other walled-in property would.

"What you see is what you get", Mendes says, in contrast to the often misleading imagery seen when looking at marketing materials of other developers and comparing them to the actual finished product. We have developed luxury hotels for over 12 years and now bring the same quality and detail finishes to the residential market", he continues. Casa Verde is built based on Swiss finishing standards, UK electrical standards, and the use of various imported materials. These include a new wall system from Germany that assures better durability, fire resistance and insulation. "We want to use only the best quality materials to create Casa Verde and therefore choose various European brands to achieve that".

Casa Verde Villas will feature 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, with 1 bedroom on the ground floor next to the pool and two rooms on the upper floor. The ground floor offers a large open space combining kitchen and living area overlooking a beautiful pool and lavish green backdrop. For those who enjoy fine wines, the villa offers a provision for a built-in wine room. There is a garage with space for two cars and direct access to the house,another small convenient detail. The master bedroom, located on the upper floor, spans over 72 square meters with a spacious walk-in closet, large bathroom and a beautiful round bathtub overlooking the swimming pool.



Casa Verde Villas is located just behind Tara International School, set into the beautiful countryside of Nongprue. "The development has its own water well and produces drinking water quality through a Dutch designed filtration system, allowing residents to drink best quality mineral water from their tap at home", Mendes mentions. "This was something very important to me as it is normal in my home country (Switzerland), and I wanted to bring the same convenience to Pattaya".

Casa Verde Villas has indeed many unique features, and breaks a few of the usual rules of Thai developments for the benefit of those who appreciate quality and comfort.

For more information and to stay up to date with progress and pricing, please visit www.casaverdevillas.com

2023 Trends for Gardens

It's not hard to find information about how to improve the aesthetics around you—home improvement projects, ways to declutter your life, décor ideas, etc. etc. Surrounding yourself with beauty is a worthwhile endeavour that can improve your mood and outlook on life in general. So it's no surprise that in 2023 gardeners are striving to give their outdoor spaces, balconies, and homes an aesthetic that makes them happy.



For example, more and more gardeners are trying their hand at growing cut flowers to make their own bouquets. Sunflowers, zinnias, and cosmos in a variety of colours, as shown above, are all wonderful for bouquets. Whether you're looking to share your homegrown flowers with friends and family or create your own centrepieces for the dining table, here are some tips to help get you started:



When choosing flowers, opt for those with strong stems. Also, those that tend to bloom for a long period of time. Good examples are daffodils, marigolds, roses and tulips. Find a spot for your cutting garden, maybe in a raised garden bed, easy for watering. Know your soil, is it dense and heavy and will clump together when wet or loose or is it free flowing with the consistency of sand? Clay soils have tiny, dense particles that hold large reserves of moisture and nutrients but drains slowly and can become hard and compacted when dry. Water will move through sandy soils more easily but so will important nutrients. Loam is the ideal soil for most plants being well balanced with mineral particles and rich in humus which is what's left after organic matter decomposes.

In locations where gardeners need to be drought conscious Mediterranean-style gardens are surging in popularity as this style is conducive to using less water. Lavender is one of several plants that serve to create the look of a Mediterranean garden as well as other fragrant herbs such as rosemary. oregano and basil. Plants such as Bougainvillea grow well and are bright climbers that will put on a show almost all year long and trees such as olive trees will help with the Mediterranean look.

If you don't have a garden you can still brighten your home with houseplants and although green is a classic the trend for indoor gardeners in 2023 it to choose something fun and different with foliage in surprising colours. For example, the Sun Red Philodendron as shown above with large leaves that produce eye-catching décor. Hydroponic varieties are also gaining in popularity because they can simply be grown in water so no soil is required. As long as you change the water at least once every couple of months, they are really easy to look after and very visually appealing especially when placed in a glass container, which puts the root system on display.



If you are a keen gardener without too much space you can consider vertical gardening with the use of an arbour, trellis or pergola. Planter boxes and mounted containers work well to create "living walls".

Another popular garden trend this year is to use natural materials. There is an increased interest in creating calm, serene spaces which has led to a rise in the use of natural materials for hardscaping such as natural stone pathways. As landscape designer and horticulturist, Jan Johnsen puts it, "Rustic stone paths paved with small stones or stepping stones make us watch our step and slow our pace. They make us take time to appreciate the garden.

" In a world full of to-do lists and a constant barrage of information, what could be better? Happy gardening!



For many seasoned gardeners, foliage has always been a focus, but for others, recognizing all that foliage has to offer is opening a whole new world of possibilities. Look beyond just the variety of colours you can get from a plant's leaves and add foliage in a variety of textures to give depth and complexity. In their book Fine Foliage, Karen Chapman and Christina Salwitz write, "Without the contrast of different textures the composition will appear unexceptional." Here are some ways you can use texture in your garden:

Enhance the sense of touch. Whether it's walking on soft moss or running your hands along the tips of delicate stems of grasses, being able to touch and feel plants takes a garden experience to the next level. Also, make the most of the light and consider where the sunlight hits and how you can use it to your benefit to enrich visual interest.



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