



## Multi-Generational Travel *THROUGH THE AGES*



### *AKARYN Hotel Group Embraces Multi-Generational Travel with Super-Sized Spaces & Amazing Activities Across Thailand*

●● BEYOND SIMPLY CATERING TO COUPLES AND CORPORATE TRAVELLERS, AKARYN is embracing the multi-generational travel trend with special activities tailored to the desires of these different generations and encouraging them to reconnect, whether it's on the beach or in the hustle bustle of one of our urban destinations. From sunrise yoga sessions overlooking the ocean, immersive organic cooking classes and exhilarating water sports at its resort destinations to immersive urban excursions and cultural arts and crafts classes at the boutique city hotels, guests are never short of opportunities to share holiday experiences with loved ones.



●● FROM ONE-BEDROOM ACCOMMODATIONS TO BIG VILLAS, AKARYN HAS IT ALL. Aleenta Phuket Resort & Spa, Aleenta Hua Hin Resort & Spa and *akyra* Beach Club Phuket offer a selection of vast two- and three-bedroom beachfront villas which are perfectly suited to multi-generational holidays.



The beach destinations also offer a series of "Beach Lifestyle" family experiences suitable for all ages, featuring yoga sessions, cupcake decorating classes, bike hire for the whole family and pizza making lessons.



“ Guests of All Ages Can Share Memorable Moments ”

●● MEANWHILE, FOR CITY GETAWAYS, *akyra* Thonglor Bangkok offers two- and three-bedroom accommodations with ample areas for living, dining and relaxation, while *akyra* TAS Sukhumvit offers Family Rooms, two inter-connected bedrooms, private balcony and spacious bathroom. The all-suite *akyra* Manor Chiang Mai offers smaller families a luxurious and spacious courtyard-within-a-room concept completed with modern facilities for a memorable stay.

Three of the urban hotels offer a varied schedule of carefully curated activities for families to explore.

For inquiries and further information, contact us at [vip@ahmshotels.com](mailto:vip@ahmshotels.com)

LIFE & TIMES

10<sup>th</sup> Issue

BY AKARYN HOTEL GROUP

[www.akarynhotelgroup.com](http://www.akarynhotelgroup.com)

July 2019

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# HEAR & Say

Go to [www.akarynhotelgroup.com](http://www.akarynhotelgroup.com) for more information

## A Few Words From Our Leader

TO OUR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS

10<sup>th</sup> Issue July 2019



**Anchalika Kijkanakorn**

Founder and Managing Director,  
AKARYN Hotel Group

Board of Directors,  
Small Luxury Hotels of the World

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●● WELCOME TO THE 10TH EDITION OF LIFE & TIME -- our opportunity to share the inspiring ideas, activities, and experiences on offer at each of our distinctive hotels and resorts around Thailand.

And yet it is no longer only Thailand where we will be operating! Since launching, we have exclusively focused on our home country — growing our various brands organically through the Kingdom's key destinations and providing guests with staunchly individual experiences that reflect our personality and meet their expectations. Now, for the first time in our history, I'm delighted to announce that we'll be rolling out two of our brands in Indonesia and Vietnam.

The beautiful 50-room Aleenta Retreat Bali is a spa village and yoga resort nestled in jungle-clad hills of Ubud. It will feature the latest luxury amenities, including an extensive Ayurah Wellness centre, an outdoor yoga area overlooking reflective ponds and a fitness centre that will allow guests to enjoy an invigorating workout in paradise. It's only fitting that our inaugural international property flies under the Aleenta brand, as this was the pioneering brand in our portfolio.

Also opening its doors in 2021 is *akyra* Hoi An, a unique waterfront resort that sits midway between Hoi An's historic town centre and golden China Beach. Guests who have experienced *akyra*'s hotels and resorts in Bangkok, Phuket and Chiang Mai will be familiar with the brand's trend-setting style, and we look forward to introducing guests to a new era of contemporary, cutting-edge hospitality in this idyllic location.

Elsewhere in the world of AKARYN, we have achieved our ambitious plan to rid each of our properties of all single-use plastics by June 2019. It's a small step to tackling a huge problem and we hope that our actions will not only inspire our guests and teams to think twice about plastic consumptions but also our peers throughout the hospitality industry.

Finally, we're introducing a series of exciting family-focused initiatives at our properties to cater to the rise in popularity of multi-generational travel, which has been one of the industry's biggest trends in recent years. From inclusive activities that transcend generations to super-sized accommodation options that bring families closer together, we're ensuring that guests are never short of opportunities to share holiday experiences with loved ones.

Read on for more insights into our multi-generational initiatives, single-use plastic ban, new international resorts and of course much more!



*akyra* Hoi An

### AKARYN HOTEL GROUP — SILVER BOARD OF AWARDS AND HONOURS



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### A LIFE & TIMES

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Special thanks to the AKARYN Hotel Group team and everyone involved behind the scenes of each of our fabulous resorts, who made this newspaper possible.

# MAKING INTERNATIONAL MOVES

*AKARYN Hotel Group launches its first-ever overseas properties*

*After developing a rich portfolio of resort and urban concepts in Thailand's most desirable destinations, AKARYN is taking its first overseas steps with the exciting unveiling of two brand-new hotels in Indonesia and Vietnam.*



●● **A SPA VILLAGE AND YOGA RESORT NESTLED IN JUNGLE-CLAD HILLS OF UBUD**, the 50-room Aleenta Retreat Bali is one of the 'Island of the Gods' most highly-anticipated additions in 2020. It will feature the latest luxury amenities, including an extensive Ayurah Wellness centre, where guests can unwind with an array of soothing treatments, including traditional Balinese massages and natural therapies. An outdoor yoga area will overlook reflective ponds and a fitness centre will allow guests to enjoy an invigorating workout in paradise.

The property is designed to reflect the timeless charm and character of its destination, featuring large living spaces and world-class facilities while also operating in harmony with the environment.



●● **ALSO OPENING ITS DOORS IN 2021 IS akrya HOI AN**, a unique waterfront resort that sits midway between Hoi An's historic town centre and golden China Beach. Located on the banks of the Thu Bon estuary, this low-rise boutique retreat will be accessible either by car or by boat and many of the 110 stylish rooms and pool villas will sit on the water's edge. With its peaceful and picturesque waterfront setting, halfway between the city and the sea, *akrya* Hoi An will allow visitors to discover everything this charming destination has to offer.



# What's Happening?

*Our top picks for activities and promotions at AKARYN properties throughout Thailand*

*AKARYN Hotel Group's properties are ready for a new season of exciting activities. Take an inspiring break and relax at your favourite destination.*



●● **CHOOSE YOUR OWN PATH** — What better way to soak up Hua Hin's beautiful beaches than on two wheels? With an array of dedicated cycle tracks and bike-friendly roads, we provide guests at Aleenta Hua Hin Resort & Spa with bike rental, complimentary route maps and recommendations, secure bike stands and storage and emergency mobile phones. We even offer personal trainers and local guides as well as post-ride spa treatments. **Starting from THB 5,100 net per night inclusive of room, breakfast and two bicycles**

●● **A HOME RUM** — Guests at Aleenta Phuket Resort & Spa and *akyra* Beach Club Phuket can indulge in the tropical tastes of Thai rum from boutique local factory Chalong Bay.



Each set includes two differently flavoured 330-millilitre bottles — a lemongrass-infused recipe and the signature pure cane sugar series — and an array of cocktail recipes to ensure the memories of Phuket linger long after you've left.

**THB 1,800 net per set**



●● **SPEAKEASY TUK-TUK TOUR** — Explore the secret side of Thonglor's vibrant cocktail scene in *akyra* Thonglor Bangkok's private tuk-tuk. From the adventurous Rabbit Hole with its inventive menu of unique drinks to the established Iron Fairies, which blends innovative comfort with exotic mixology and live music, to relative newcomer Backstage Cocktail Bar, as well as our very own 008 Bar. Bangkok's most happening soi is the ultimate destination for an evening of old-school cocktail indulgence.



●● **MOJITO MANIA** — Savour the flavour of Cuba with one of everyone's favourite summer tipples. Our mouth-watering selection of alcoholic and alcohol-free mojitos at Aleenta Hua Hin Resort & Spa include only the freshest ingredients and provide the perfect accompaniment to a lazy afternoon. **From THB 187 net**



●● **DRINK UP** — It's International Beer Day on 2 August and what better way to celebrate this refreshing holiday than poolside at our signature rooftop of RISE Bar & Dining at *akyra* TAS Sukhumvit. Enjoy all-day special discounts on craft beer while kicking back to some laid-back beats and cooling off in the pool. **Starting from THB 89 net per drink**



●● **A DAY WITH A STAR** — Experience a heart-warming day out from *akyra* Manor Chiang Mai, interacting with the majestic elephant Moshu, which means 'star'. After tragically stepping on a land mine at just seven months old, she became the first elephant in the world to receive a prosthetic leg. Moshu is now cared for by the Friends of the Asian Elephant Hospital and the day trip includes an intimate visit to the hospital followed by a traditional northern Thai lunch along the river and your own handmade souvenir. Including transport, the trip runs from 8am-4pm.

**THB 3,900 net per person (min. two people)**



●● **TANTALISE YOUR TASTE BUDS** — Treat yourself to our special set lunch menu every day from 11:30 to 15:30 at *akyra* Thonglor Bangkok's Som Tam & Chardonnay Restaurant on the 11th floor. **From only THB 467 net per set**, you can choose from a mouthwatering menu of contemporary Thai dishes and classic international fare complete with a complimentary dessert.



●● **GET CREATIVE** — Enjoy private art classes during your stay at *akyra* Manor Chiang Mai with some of the city's top artists. The two-hour classes are held at our function room and educate guests on the basics, as well as introducing them to local techniques. **THB 2,500 net a class per person**





●● **PLANT FOR THE FUTURE** — Only a 25-minute drive from Aleenta Hua Hin Resort & Spa, visit Thailand's first marine park, Khao Sam Roi Yot, to discover some of the country's most beautiful mangroves. Work with park rangers to help reforest this incredible ecosystem and sustain the lives of the countless marine species that call it home. There's a small cost to cover the transfer and a donation of THB30 is required for every tree planted, which goes directly to our Pure Blue Foundation to fund further environmental projects.



●● **MIXING IT UP** — Create your own incredible cocktails while staying at *akyra* Manor Chiang Mai. Led by our professional bartender, guests are invited to concoct a range of delicious drinks based on our special daily cocktail menu, picking up skills that will impress all of your friends back home. THB 900 net per person



●● **FLOATING SENSATION** — Loy Kratong is one of Thailand's most picturesque festivities during which many people pay respect to the goddesses of water by releasing lotus-shaped rafts decorated with candles and incense onto the water. While beautiful, the aftermath leads to many environmental issues, which is why this year on 13 November we'll be hosting workshops at Siam Soul Cafe at *akyra* TAS Sukhumvit to teach guests how to make their own beautiful biodegradable rafts.

●● **MUM'S THE WORD** — Make Mother's Day even more magical with our special à la carte brunch at *akyra* TAS Sukhumvit Bangkok on 12 August, which includes Thai and Western favourites. What's more, all mums eat free with a table of four! THB 1,520 net per person



# WE KNOW HOW TO PAMPER YOU!

*It's time to enjoy, recharge and above all relax.*

●● **REWARDING YOURSELF DURING YOUR HOLIDAY** is no longer just about comfortable accommodation, but also about combining serene amenities and therapies to create your perfect holiday experience. At Aleenta Phuket, we are ready to pamper you with "Spa Therapy" and "Retail Therapy".

## AYURAH WELLNESS CENTER

Thailand's only home of the exclusive and sought-after Linda Meredith range of skincare products and therapies which help to slow down the ageing process.

Indulge your senses and experience Ayurah, with a philosophy of "Eat Well, Live Well, Be Well, Look Good", offering a full range of spa treatments designed to relax and heal with an authentic Asian spa experience, pampering with a purpose, and wellness that works.



## GALLERIA, a little retail therapy at our very own boutique shop

Check out the brand Dea Kudibal for scarves and shawls made from vintage fabrics and a delightful clothing line with feminine prints, playful colours and flattering silhouettes.

Browse through sustainable giveaways from stylish stainless steel water bottles to glass straws and recyclable tote bags and 100% paraben free organic essential oils that you can buy and refill into your own bottle.

**GO ON, GET PAMPERED.**

# FREE AT LAST

*Companywide pledge to eliminate single-use plastics in partnership with the Pure Blue Foundation achieved in June 2019*



●● **SINGLE-USE PLASTICS ARE THE SCOURGE OF THE ENVIRONMENT** and we have been challenged by reducing them in the hospitality industry too. Last year, AKARYN Hotel Group made a commitment to finally get rid of them all from all levels of operations.

It sounds something that is fairly easy to achieve until it is really looked into; it not only requires the hotel to change its practices but for it to convince its suppliers to consider new ways of working too. In short, it is about working together to a common goal – to cut out the single-use plastics, many of which end up polluting our streets, fields and oceans.

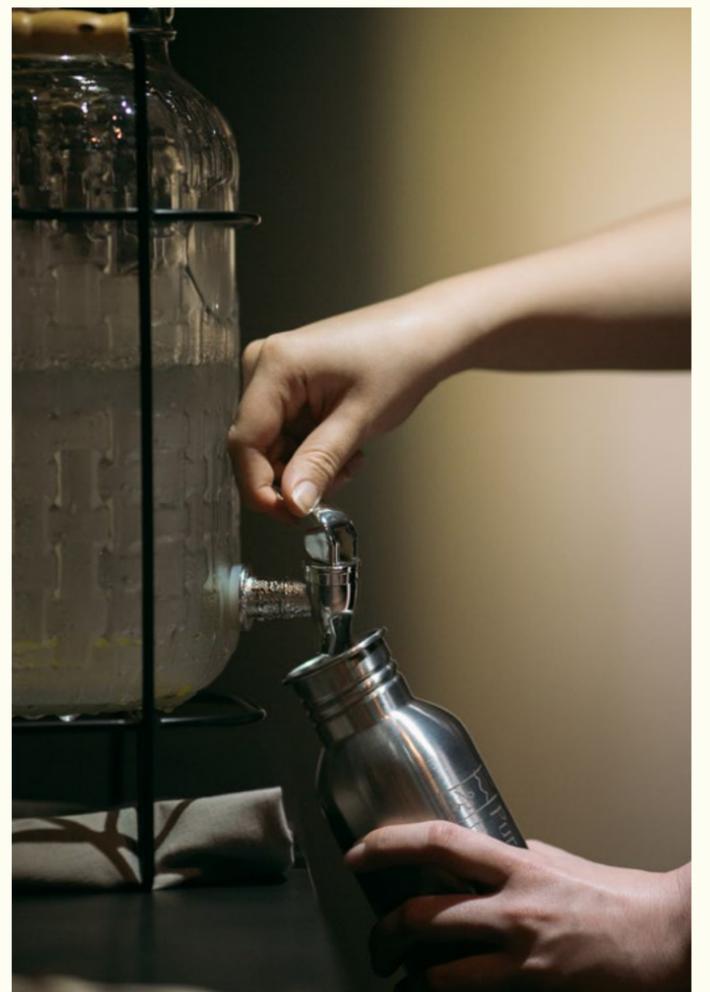


“*We even encourage guests to think of the environment outside*”

●● **THE JOURNEY TO A NO SINGLE-USE PLASTIC FUTURE STARTED IN 2018.** “This began with the opening of *akyra* TAS Sukhumvit Bangkok last year, followed by *akyra* Manor Chiang Mai and now I’m proud that we have achieved no single-use plastic status at all six of our hotels and resorts in Bangkok, Phuket, Hua Hin and Chiang Mai,” says AKARYN Hotel Group Founder Anchalika Kijkanakorn.

“We offer all guests stylish stainless-steel, refillable water bottles on arrival, as well as refillable, organic toiletries and amenities using essential oil products, with biodegradable packaging. We even encourage guests to think of the environment outside of the hotels, with reusable shopping totes offered in every room, and no single-use plastic is used in the bars or restaurants.

“I’m delighted to say it’s working. Please help us continue so we can ensure plastic is reduced as much as is possible from our hotels. It’s a huge credit to our team. If they do not believe in it, it will not happen. It started from some small steps but we are getting there and we are free at last from all single-use plastics.



# GREAT MATES *ESCAPES*

*Intimate luxury hotel specialist allows BFFs to create their own slumber parties, with fun-filled activities and spacious accommodation at a choice of five-star hotels and resorts*



● ● OUR "GREAT MATES ESCAPES" PACKAGE is an incredible excuse for groups of friends to enjoy fun-filled breaks together, with a new package that lets BFFs experience interesting local activities and create their own high-end slumber parties.



Available in all six hotels, groups of pals can stay at five-star hotels and resorts in Phuket, Hua Hin, Bangkok or Chiang Mai, with luxurious accommodation in a choice of stunning suites, standalone residences and spectacular pool villas. While away the lazy days with in-room movies and games, champagne breakfasts, mid-day happy hours, cocktail classes and group manicures and pedicures. And when it's time to unwind, guests are guaranteed a perfect night's sleep with our complimentary sleeping masks, pyjamas and divine 400 thread count Egyptian cotton bed sheets.



## COOK A THAI CLASSIC *WITH A TWIST*

**SOM TAM & CHARDONNAY RESTAURANT**  
*akyra Thonglor Hotel, Bangkok*



A bright, spacious dining destination based on an East Meets West concept with exquisite Thai cuisine complemented by international specials and a wide selection of fine wines to bring out the flavour of the freshest ingredients. The restaurant lives up to its name with no less than five different som tam dishes on the menu; Thailand's famous green papaya salad, served with shrimp, soft shell crab, fish, Thai sausage or even as a mixed fruit platter. Som Tam & Chardonnay opens onto the expansive pool terrace and is also the venue for the daily gourmet breakfast, an indulgent spread providing a nourishing start to an inspiring day in the city.



### SOM TAM RECIPE

#### Ingredients

- 120g of fish sauce
- 250g of tamarind
- 400g of palm sugar
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 3 bird's eye chillis
- 30g of long beans cut into 5cm pieces
- 50g of cherry tomatoes, halved
- 10g of roasted peanuts
- 10g of dried shrimp
- 250g of shredded papaya
- 50g of shredded carrot
- 10g of fresh lime juice

#### How to make it

- Put a pot on medium heat and add the fish sauce, tamarind and palm sugar. Stir until the sugar dissolves and the sauce takes on the consistency of heavy syrup
- Remove the sauce from the heat and set aside
- In a mortar, add garlic and bird's eye chillis and lightly crush with a pestle
- Add long beans, cherry tomatoes, peanuts and dried shrimps to the mortar and lightly crush and mix well with a pestle
- Add papaya, carrot, som tam sauce and lime juice. Again, lightly crush and mix well with a pestle
- Adjust the seasoning with more fish sauce, som tam sauce and lime juice as needed



# Points & VIEWS



## CHIC HOTEL IN THAILAND'S NORTHERN CAPITAL



It has been almost four years since the successful debut of *akya* Manor Chiang Mai and much has changed in that time. Known affectionately as the Rose of the North, Thailand's unofficial second city

has continued to blossom as a diverse tourist destination in recent years, catering to a wide demographic of first-time travellers, thrill-seekers and well-heeled visitors. Here we catch up with Christophe Gestin, General Manager at *akya* Manor Chiang Mai to discuss how the resort has evolved, the introduction of eco-friendly initiatives and what the future holds for the bustling city.

### ●● What have been some changes and developments since the property launched four years ago?

The hotel evolves all the time as we always find ways to do things better and benefit our guests and community. We were awarded the Small Luxury Hotels award for Love of Local and this is something we are proud of. Our front office team is very well connected with the art scene so we frequently use the hotel as a gallery to showcase local talent to our guests. By doing so we believe it helps them get more exposure for their work is our very small contribution to Chiang Mai's buzzing art scene. And of course, our biggest milestone is the implementation of the no single-use plastic policy in the hotel. Although this is something that AKARYN Hotel Group has now implemented in all its hotels, we're very proud to have introduced the policy ahead of schedule in October 2018. It's a demonstration of just how committed our team here is to sustainable tourism.

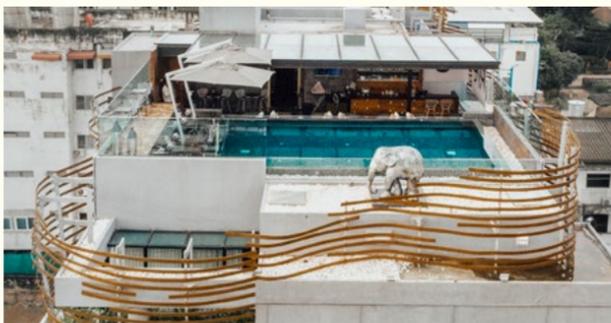
### ●● Corporate social responsibility clearly plays a strong role at the hotel. Could you tell us a little about more about this?

We have always wanted to integrate the hotel within the destination in a sustainable way so that the local community would benefit from us. For example, our Executive Chef always strives to find quality locally-sourced products from small family-owned suppliers, even if it means paying a bit more, as it helps them to make a living and we believe it truly makes a difference. We have also sponsored two schools since the hotel opened and it is especially rewarding to measure afterwards the impact we had on the daily lives of the kids and teachers. The entire team is also fully committed to this initiative, so the hard work doesn't just stop at the hotel doors. With a few lifestyle choice changes, we can all make a difference and this was truly important to us.



### ●● Why do you think *akya* Chiang Mai has been such a hit since opening?

The all-suite hotel is truly unique. It is the only luxury contemporary boutique hotel in town with an avant-garde, cutting-edge design. The incredible vibes — and views — from the rooftop bar, Rise, and huge pool are also major drawcards! It is however our team that is our biggest asset and unique selling point. I believe we have some of the sweetest and kindest people in town working in the hotel who constantly exceed guest satisfaction and care about creating great memories for everybody who stays with us.



### ●● Tell us about some of the latest market trends to have emerged?

With so many different accommodation options available these days, I believe that what makes a boutique hotel really unique is its warm, efficient and personalised service as well as a really interesting and exciting food & beverage offering. We don't just put heads in beds; we create long lasting experiences and tailor our offerings to the specific needs of each guest. Sustainability is also a must now and will become the norm pretty soon, I believe. How well the hotel integrates with the destination is dependent on how well it benefits the local community, and it's one of the main reasons why many of our guests keep coming back -- from day one through to year four.

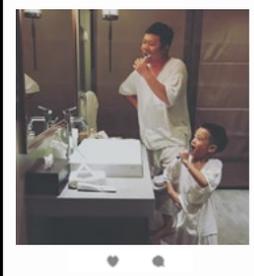
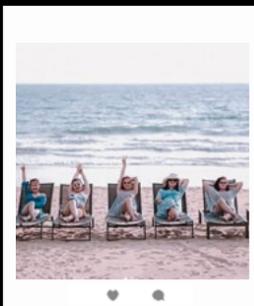
### ●● What are you doing to celebrate the four-year anniversary?

We have already hosted a number of events including art auctions and the Pure Blue Foundation fundraiser for the local schools. We're now really looking forward to hosting the upcoming Food Galore event at the hotel, which will showcase local ingredients and a signature degustation menu from our extremely talented chef.



## Instagram

Your Photos - Our Favourites



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