Sawasdee Khrub!
I hope you all are well and safe.
I am delighted to announce the gradual re-opening of Krabi & Phang Nga following Phuket & Koh Samui under the 7+7 model for low risk countries.
In this Newsletter, we would like to highlight the areas in Krabi & Phang Nga that have re-opened for tourism.
We would also like to talk about Thailand as a great destination for romance, honeymoon and wedding celebrations.
Amazing Thailand receives award for International Wedding Destination

Amazing Thailand recently was awarded for “International Wedding Destination” by ITCTA (International Expo & Tourism Conclave) The award was received by TAT New Delhi Office Mr. Vachirachai Sirisumphan at the function held in New Delhi. Thailand has been a favorite wedding destination for Indians for several years and continues to receive many such awards.

Tourism Authority of Thailand (India) kickstarts ‘Thailand Build Back Better Together’ Campaign with Trav Talk

Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) India Offices, New Delhi and Mumbai have announced the launch of ‘Thailand Build Back Better Together’ Campaign, which is a pan India Travel Agent Engagement. The campaign will run from 30th August 2021 till 30th September 2021. This month-long campaign will have weekly selfie at Virtual Photo Booth, promotions, contest on different
themes, polls, articles of destinations, tourism products and services as well as update travel situation in Thailand.

Tourism Authority of Thailand New Delhi organized Golf Webinar with Thai Golf Pass

To promote Thailand as an ideal destination for Golfing holidays, TAT New Delhi organised the Amazing Thailand Golf Paradise Webinar along with the Thai Golf Pass on 31st August 2021. Laguna Golf Phuket and Red Mountain Golf Club Phuket conducted presentations of their products travel media, travel trade and social media influencers. Along with this webinar the Thai Golf Pass e-book was also launched- [http://thaigolfpass.com/E-Booklet.pdf](http://thaigolfpass.com/E-Booklet.pdf)

Bangkok and Phuket among Tripadvisor’s Best of the Best 2021 destinations

Bangkok and Phuket have been named among the world’s most popular destinations in Tripadvisor’s Travellers’ Choice Best of the Best 2021 awards. The two destinations appear in the ‘Popular Destinations – World’ category of the Travellers’ Choice Best of the Best 2021 awards – iconic, can’t miss destinations that are always at the top of travellers’ wish lists.
TAT stages ‘Happy Paradise’ activities to enrich ‘Phuket Sandbox’ experience

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) is welcoming international tourists to Thailand under the Phuket Sandbox with the launch of its ‘Happy Paradise’ activities. Through the Happy Paradise project, TAT at the same time is aiming to boost confidence in the gradual reopening of Thailand to tourism among both foreign tourists and local communities. The project is also seen as a way to generate additional income that can be distributed to these communities in the pilot reopening areas of Phuket, Krabi, Phang-Nga, and Surat Thani (Ko Samui, Ko Pha-ngan, and Ko Tao).


Bangkok named No.1 among 150 ‘workation’ cities worldwide

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) is pleased to announce that Bangkok has topped the list of ‘workation’ cities around the world for 2021, in a global survey by Germany-based vacation search engine company Holidu. The Thai capital was ranked first thanks to its affordable cost of living, high degree of English-language proficiency, range of attractions, wealth of world-class facilities, and multinational corporate offices. Phuket also featured among the top workation cities around the globe, coming in at No. 10.


Destinations of the month: Romance in Phuket & Phang Nga

The beautiful islands of Phuket and Phang Nga are dream destinations for those who are planning a memorable wedding celebration, honeymoon or just want a romantic getaway in an exotic location. With the most luxurious hotels & resorts, great culinary options, exotic beaches, picturesque locations, favourable weather, rich culture and warm hospitality, Amazing Thailand is the perfect choice for celebrating a special occasions. The destination that breathes out romance! From laidback luxury to beachside glamour, from outdoor activities to the island gems or plain fun in the sun, Thailand can present you with unforgettable memories on a platter.
Often described as one of the world’s dream romantic destinations, honeymooners can discover one another’s passions and endless possibilities of finding new bonding interests and experiences to embrace together in Thailand.

**Phuket Sandbox 7+7 Extension**

The Tourism Authority of Thailand is pleased to announce that the Phuket Sandbox programme has received the green light from the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration (CCSA) to be upgraded as the “Phuket Sandbox 7+7 Extension” providing fully vaccinated international travellers with more options to visit multiple Thai destinations without the need to quarantine.

Starting from 16 August, 2021, the “Phuket Sandbox 7+7 Extension” programme allowed eligible international travellers to reduce the mandatory stay in Phuket from 14 to 7 days, after which another 7 nights can be spent in Krabi (Ko Phi Phi, Ko Ngai, or Railay), Phang-Nga (Khao Lak or Ko Yao), or Surat Thani (Samui Plus – Ko Samui, Ko Pha-ngan, or Ko Tao).

For more details log on: tatnews.org
Re-opening of areas in Krabi & Phang Nga

KRABI

Ko Phi Phi

Koh Phi Phi or Phi Phi Islands are located in the middle of the Andaman sea. It is a part of Noppharat Thara Beach – Phi Phi Islands national park which contains 2 big islands – Koh Phi Phi Don and Koh Phi Phi Le, and 4 smaller islands nearby – Koh Yung, Koh Mai Phai, Koh Pida Nok and Koh Pida Nai. Phi Phi Le was featured in the Hollywood blockbuster movie The Beach, a story about the ultimate secluded island beach.

The waters surrounding the Phi Phi Islands are filled with exotic marine life, including docile leopard sharks, and Snorkelling and diving day trip rival lounging on the beach are top activities on Koh Phi Phi.
Koh Ngai

Koh Ngai is an island in Krabi Province, but can better be reached via Trang Province on the southern Andaman Coast. Like many other coastal destinations in southern Thailand, it is known for its diving and long white beaches.

Koh Ngai (aka Koh Hai), Krabi is great for Nature lovers, especially those who are also fans of sea, sun and sand holidays. The island has some great coral reefs along its coastline, making it perfect for snorkelling. Koh Ngai has plenty of beaches, big and small that enjoy gorgeous views of tiny karst islands and some equally well-known nearby islands including Koh Libung and Koh Mook and Koh Lanta.

Railay

Also known as Rai Leh, is a small peninsula between the city of Krabi and Ao Nang in Thailand. It is accessible only by boat due to high limestone cliffs cutting off mainland access.

Railay Beach is, in fact, a small peninsula which counts four beaches. Now on every savvy traveller's list, Railay is nevertheless one of Thailand's most sought-after beach areas. Just south of Ao Nang Beach, around a rocky headland and accessible only by boat, Railay presents a tranquil and extraordinary world. In just one small peninsula you'll find gorgeous white sand beaches, soaring limestone cliffs, viewpoints, caves and a lagoon hidden inside the cliffs, shaped and fed by the changing tides. All within walking distance! At Railay there are no roads; only footpaths. No buses, no cars, just longtail boats. Although it's actually connected to the mainland, the spectacular Phra Nang Peninsular is effectively cut off from the rest of Krabi by limestone headlands and steep jungle valleys; the only access is by sea. The very picture of tropical paradise, with no roads and no hassle, Railay offers lazy days, adventure forays, rock climbing havens and chilled-out evenings.
PHANG NGA

Khao Lak

Khao Lak, located just an hour’s drive (just 80 k.m) north of Phuket Island on the gorgeous Andaman seaboard, is one of Thailand’s most peaceful resort destinations. No less than three national parks are embraced by the surrounding hills that sweep down to this lovely stretch of coastline with beaches that go on for miles. Khao Lak offers a rare oasis for relaxation, with a superb combination of cool tropical forest, lovely beachfront accommodation and expansive white sand beaches. Khao Lak has many luxurious resorts and newly built/refurbished hotels providing a quantity and quality of top class accommodation. Khao Lak is also a very popular destination for Indian wedding and special occasion celebrations.

Picture courtesy: JW Marriott Khao Lak

Koh Yao

Koh Yao, is a group of islands between Phuket and Krabi. There are two main islands, Ko Yao Noi and Koh Yao Yai, with Noi being the more developed of the two. Koh Yao Noi and Koh Yao Yai are a pair of large islands in the middle of Phang Nga Bay, equidistant to Phuket and Krabi. While you’ll find several luxury resorts and tourist facilities on Koh Yao Noi, the islands remain a quiet refuge that feels far removed from the crowds of Phuket. Some of the best things you can do on the Koh Yao Islands include kayaking, hiking, snorkelling, and swimming.

In Koh Yao Yai, the islanders are keen to preserve their traditional ways, so it's important to respect the local culture by dressing modestly and refraining from drinking alcohol in public areas.
Did you know?

- Railay is primarily known as a rock climbing hot spot, attracting climbers from all over the world to its superb towering limestone.
- Apart from the feature film -The Man with the Golden Gun, Phang Nga bay also appeared in Star Wars: Episode III – Revenge of the Sith. Its distinctive look was used as the backdrop for planet Kashyyyk.

**Quiz on Destination: PHUKET & PHANG NGA**

Answer the below Quiz; Lucky winner will get a gift from TAT. (Kindly reply by 25th September on tat.directrep@gmail.com)

Q1. At which beach in Thailand was the title song of Bollywood movie “Kaho Na Pyaar Hai” shot?
Ans: Phra Nang beach

Q2. Name the most famous national park in Phang Nga.
Ans: AO Phang Nga National Park

Q3. The Re-opening of Samui for International tourism is under a program called......?
Ans: Samui Plus