

MAGIC CARPET RIDE



PRICE TAG: From 15,500 Baht

Scheduled to open on October 25, **Qasr Al Sarab Desert Resort by Anantara** (qasralsarab.anantara.com), 90 minutes from Abu Dhabi, is located in the famed Liwa desert; an area abundant with indigenous wildlife, steeped in tradition and bursting with legacy. The 206-suite luxury resort has been designed to absorb the region's distinctive customs, with guestroom interiors that are inspired by the simple grandeur of an old desert fortress. The locally handcrafted furnishings, lush carpets and embroidered fabrics evoke a mood of romance and warmth. In true Anantara style, guests can immerse themselves in 'local' experiences, like trekking across the desert by camel with a Bedouin guide. A tapestry of color, texture, luxury and ingenuity awaits discovery...

DREAMS COME TRUE



If the idea of the very best things in life appeals to you, VIP travel planner **Dreamscape Journeys** (www.dreamscapejourneys.com) is an exclusive members-only deal that gives you access to some incredible journeys and unique experiences, tailor-made around your personal tastes and preferences. Ever dreamed of driving the latest Ferrari models on the scenic, winding roads of the Italian countryside, surrounded by endless olive groves and vineyards? The **Florence & Tuscany by Ferrari Tour** offers just that, created for you to fully experience the Italian way of life. Each journey is a sublime blend of art, fashion, architecture, gastronomy, spectacular scenery and... red-hot Ferraris! In the morning, guests will find their car at the entrance of the hotel, clean and polished, refueled and fully checked, ready to begin another day of exciting driving through dazzling landscapes. The four-day tour includes a full Ferrari briefing, overnight stays in spectacular hotels (like a beautiful 12th-century castle perched on a hill), a variety of lunches and dinners at Michelin-star establishments, mobile radio systems to keep in touch with your private tour director, and a souvenir DVD with pictures of your experience. Specially for **2magazine** readers, Dreamscape Journeys is also throwing in an olive oil-tasting in Florence, a private visit to the Uffizi Museum, and a wine-tasting in the Brunello di Montalcino production area. The tour starts and ends in Florence, with stop-overs in S. Gimignano, Siena, Val d'Orcia and Chianti.

PRICE TAG: Around 256,000 Baht (per person)

ARCTIC ADVENTURE



Here's a chance to be part of the first ever team of arctic adventurers to both tandem skydive on to the geographical North Pole and also make a circumnavigational dive under the moving ice in the company of some of the most experienced adventure professionals in the world. **The North Pole Above and Below** – operated and managed by **Pioneer Expeditions** (www.pioneerexpeditions.com) – will start with ice dive training and tandem parachute briefings in Northern Norway, before flying to Longyearbyen on the Island of Spitzbergen. After a short stay the team will travel to Ice Station Borneo, and then fly in helicopters to the North Pole to set up base for three days and two nights. The expedition will take place between April 12 and 26 next year, and will make arctic adventure history while raising awareness of our changing environment. There's only space for 16 hardcore adventurers, so don't delay if this is your cup of tea. Travel tip: Don't forget the thermal underwear.

PRICE TAG: Available for serious enquiries only

INDIA IN STYLE

Reserved for the privileged few, **Diethelm Travel Group's** (www.diethelmtravel.com) **Red Carpet India Tour** leaves nothing to chance. From the moment guests board the private Cessna Citation X Jet in Bangkok, they will be receiving red-carpet treatment throughout six days of magical sights and imperial luxury at four must-see Indian destinations. On touchdown in India, the amazing journey begins with contrasting experiences in the ancient Mughal city of Old Delhi and the Imperial British Raj's New Delhi. On day two, a short flight then whisks you to Agra, and the wondrous Taj Mahal at dawn. The next day, the journey continues to the fascinating world heritage sites of Agra Fort and Fatehpur Sikri, before flying on to Jaipur. The next three days explores the sights and sounds of Jaipur and India's most romantic city, Udaipur. The opulence of private jet travel continues on the ground as you are pampered in grand and gracious accommodation at palaces and award-winning hotels whilst being personally escorted throughout the tour.



PRICE TAG: Around 600,270 Baht (per person based on six people traveling together and sharing twin/double rooms)

JUNGLE FEVER



The tree canopy bridge at **Inkaterra Reserva Amazonica** (www.reserva-amazonica.com) in the jungles of Peru – one of South America's longest – makes it possible to literally walk through the treetops, suspended 103 feet above the ground. Millions of species, many still undiscovered, spend their entire lives in this realm. Until recently, only scientists ventured there. Inkaterra, in partnership with the World Bank and National

Geographic, has created this system of two tall towers and seven hanging bridges, woven through the crowns of the tallest trees. Meticulously engineered, it is considered one of the safest canopy walkways in the world, and offers an expansive window onto the world of the tropical rainforest. Round off the treetop experience with a stay in a tree-house at the reserve – it comes complete with room service and a pair of binoculars.

PRICE TAG: From 13,000 Baht (per night)

CHIC RETREAT



PRICE TAG: Check online for the best available rates

With a prime beachside location on Koh Samui's serene **Lamai Beach, Langham Place Samui** (kohsamui.langhamplacehotels.com) is a chic 'village' retreat with 77 stunning villas and suites. Beach-facing pool villas are perfect for a romantic getaway and to watch the sun rise (if the alarm clock goes off), while suites are clustered around large communal pools to create a sense of exclusive community. Unique to the property is the concept of 'borderless dining', allowing guests to dine anywhere at specially-designed spaces around the resort. The **1+1 Night Free** opening offer runs until December 24, and gives you a bonus night for every room reserved at the best available online rates or through travel agents.

FLYING HIGH

- To celebrate the 20th anniversary of operating flights to Bangkok, **Turkish Airlines** (www.thy.com) is offering special return air tickets to Economy Class travelers from Bangkok to all destinations in Europe via Istanbul for 19,135 baht. The fares do not include airport tax, insurance, fuel (and other) surcharges. Until October 31.
- Kingfisher Airlines** (www.flyingfisher.com), India's only five-star airline (as rated by Skytrax), recently launched daily direct flights between Bangkok and Kolkata, marking the company's first route to Southeast Asia.
- The **Best Buy** promotion from **Bangkok Airways** (www.bangkokair.com) offers super airfares to eight domestic and four international routes. One-way domestic routes start from 910 baht, while return international routes are a steal from 4,500 baht. The promotion runs until December 15, and includes destinations like Sukhothai, Chiang Mai, Phuket, Koh Samui, Phnom Penh, Ho Chi Minh City, Siem Reap and Luang Prabang. Special fares exclude fuel surcharges, travel insurance and airport taxes.