

LUXURY TRAVEL

AUTUMN 2010, \$17.95

BEST LUXURY SKI LODGES

Australia & New Zealand

HOTEL HIPSTERS

Boutique hotels turn 30

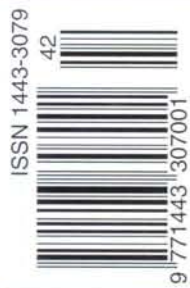
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Classic THAILAND

HOTELS AND RESORTS CAN BECOME KNOWN AS CLASSICS FOR MANY REASONS; IT MIGHT BE THAT IN THEIR STYLE OR DESIGN THEY REPRESENT SOMETHING QUINTESSENTIAL ABOUT THEIR CITY, OR IT COULD BE THAT THEY MADE A SPLASH WHEN THEY LAUNCHED AND HAVE CONTINUED TO ATTRACT DEVOTEES. PROPERTIES RARELY FALL OFF CLASSIC LISTS AND NEW ENTRIES ARE JUST AS RARE. NEVERTHELESS, HERE'S LUXURY TRAVEL MAGAZINE'S LIST OF THAILAND'S CURRENT CROP OF CLASSIC HOTELS AND RESORTS.

TEXT BY SUSAN BORHAM, MICHAEL SHAW, MADELEINE STRATTON AND JULIA CLARKE



Ficus Restaurant, The Sarojin

Website: www.sarojin.com

Location: Phuket, Thailand.

Spa: Pathways

Restaurants: Ficus: International and Italian; The Edge: al fresco Thai and seafood.

Current promotional offer for travel between 20 April 2010 and 31 October 2010: Stay a minimum of two nights in any guest residence at The Sarojin (Sarojin Suite, Pool Residence, Garden Residence) and receive the same number of nights free.

V Australia

Getting there: V Australia offers twice weekly flights direct from Brisbane to Phuket on Fridays and Sundays. Weekly flights direct from Melbourne to Phuket are also available on Thursdays. This boutique-style carrier operates a fleet of new Boeing 777-300ER aircraft with three class cabins: International Business, International Premium Economy and International Economy. International Economy class fares start from \$399 ex Brisbane and Melbourne one way including taxes. V Australia also offers connecting flights between Sydney and Phuket from \$405. www.vaustralia.com.au.

The Sarojin

Can you outsource romance in your relationship? Yes, you can. At Sarojin an "imagineer" has conceived a range of romantic spots on beaches, at waterfalls or at bends in the river, where he can arrange for you to arrive by boat and recline on day beds while hundreds of candles are lit and a lavishly dressed table is set just for the two of you. It's rarely more romantic than that, in the privacy of the great outdoors.

The resort sits on a white, coral-sand beach that curves beside the Andaman Sea on the coast of Thailand at Khoa Lak, about an hour by luxury transfer north of Phuket.

There's a lot that's different about Sarojin. You'll find nothing missing from the five-star features list but you'll find a lot of personal touches that take it beyond every day luxury. Fifty-six one-bedroom residences comprise the accommodation and are separated from the resort proper by tropical gardens of Heliconia and Strelizia plants, and kept private from each other with clever design.

The restaurant and bar Ficus is at the centre of the resort under a magnificent old fig tree and beside a reflection pool that mirrors the sky. The atmosphere is romantic and the food is mainly modern western in style executed well and supported by an awarded, well-stocked cellar and a bar that's open all day. Couple spa treatments are another of the romantic attractions of the Sarojin.

Sarojin, if you haven't already worked it out, is a resort for couples; there are no children under twelve allowed. So if you're just starting out or rediscovering the magic of your relationship there is all the support you need at Sarojin.