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PRODUCT

Getting shipwrecked and loving it

Being stranded on a desert island with your loved one is the stuff dreams are made of. With Valentines Day looming on the calendar, The Sarojin in Thailand is providing an experience that helps amorous couples turn such dreams into reality. **Richie Kenzie** and **Alexandra Rampano** found out more

“While Shipwrecked was especially created with Valentines in mind, the rest of the year may well benefit from the experience”

Kate Kemp, owner and executive director, The Sarojin

Most people have outgrown the teenage habit of doodling love hearts on the front of their notepads and few still pine for a red rose to be thrust in front of them in the playground. But the pressure of organising a romantic gesture can be a tricky thing and it still leaves some men sweating at the thought.

But with Valentine's Day fast approaching, there is good news for all the budding Romeos out there. Would be romantics looking for something out of the ordinary to give their special someone will be thrilled with the Sarojin's latest tailor made experience.

On offer is a luxurious six-night Shipwrecked With Your Valentine package which should really

knock the socks off the better half. This will certainly be the case if they are accustomed to nothing more than the obligatory box of Ferrero Rocher chocolates each February 14th.

The package for two includes six nights' accommodation in either a Garden Residence, Pool Residence or an ultra swanky Sarojin Suite. Also part of the deal are return transfers to Phuket international airport, a la carte breakfasts and bubbly plus a Thai cooking class with a resident chef.

But the real highlight for star-crossed couples is the sumptuous private dinner held on a desert island. Guests are whisked off on a private 90 minute cruise aboard the luxury *Lady Sarojin* with the

drinks flowing from a private bar while canapés are served. Upon arrival a private butler greets guests and cocktails are served. Dinner is then dished up and, once finished, guests are rescued in style, being delivered back to the Sarojin courtesy of a traditional Thai longtail boat and a private transfer.

The Shipwrecked With Your Valentine package is the first specially designed experience to focus on Valentine's Day from the team at The Sarojin.

The property's owner and executive director Kate Kemp is confident they are onto a winner. “While Shipwrecked was especially created with Valentines in mind, the rest of the year may well

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benefit from the experience now as The Sarojin attracts romantics all year round," she said.

Kemp said that customer feedback was a factor in creating the experience, with couples seeking a package that combined seclusion, luxury and an opportunity to immerse themselves in the coastal beauty of Thailand.

She also stressed that a visit to the Sarojin was about taking the time to relax and catch up with loved ones. "We really look to create such a unique environment and offer tailor-made service for

guests. Our all day a la carte breakfast with sparkling wine just sets the right pace and balance for every guest at the start of the day – there's no buffet and no cut off time. Guests come when they feel like it, are served a la carte, and eat whatever they wish from the breakfast menu – all for one set price."

The Sarojin also offers other bespoke experiences such private dining and spa treatments and Kemp believes that continued innovation is essential to the property's success.

So while a luxury trip to Thailand might set you back a little more than a Hallmark card, the private island dinner offered by the Sarojin is likely to linger in the memory long after that box of roses has wilted.

The property is located roughly an hour's drive north of Phuket Island. The full six-night Shipwrecked With Your Valentine package for two, staying in a Sarojin Suite, starts from 262,320 Thai baht (\$8462). For more information, visit www.sarojin.com. ■



The Sarojin's Shipwrecked With Your Valentine experience treats couples to luxury in seclusion.