

— DISCOVER —
PATTAYA

Fall in Love With Your New Home



SPECIAL
VALENTINE
Gift
OFFER INSIDE

THE
PLANTATION 
— ESTATES —

COMPLIMENTARY COPY

FALL IN LOVE WITH YOUR TROPICAL HOME AT

THE PLANTATION ESTATES

There are some amazing opportunities for families looking for wonderfully spacious villas on attractive, large plots of land at the prestigious Plantation Estates. Just 2 minutes from Highway 36 and Motorway 7 close to Lake Mabprachan with its keep fit/running track, entertainments and many great restaurants. Within easy reach of both Regents International School (5 minutes), Rugby International School (10 minutes) and 3 international golf courses, making a perfect base for the modern family.

The stylish design of these spacious homes is another reason to fall in love as they offer an environment that combines both indoor and outdoor charm. Enclosed by high walls to give the ultimate in privacy, with lush gardens and spectacular pool

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Hilltop Plot 3. A stunning 5 bed, 5 bath, 2 storey villa. Sitting on 233 TLW it has magnificent views of the natural, surrounding hillside, 2 living rooms (one on the second floor) and a spectacular 18m pool
 PRICED AT 58M thb Ready to move in March 2025

VIP Plot 3. A 5 bed 5 bath 2 living rooms (on on second floor) 2 storey villa with 18m long pool on 350 TLW affording great views on the natural surrounding area, hills etc
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SPECIAL VALENTINE Gift

When placing a deposit during the month of February The Plantation Estates will treat you to Dinner for 2 at the most romantic of Pattaya's restaurants

Cafe des Amis

Complete with Flowers, Champagne and even a VIP Car service to pick up and drop you home afterwards. Contact them today!

THE PLANTATION  ESTATES

Contact the Sales Office 31/58 Moo 6,
 Soi Huay MukTambon Pong,
 Banglamung, Chonburi 20150
 +66 (0) 8986 77969 info@basethailand.com
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DISCOVER PATTAYA

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SPECIAL VALENTINE

Gift

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Cafe des Amis

Complete with Flowers, Champagne and even a VIP Car service to pick up and drop you home afterwards. Contact them today!



This Month in Discover Pattaya

Hi Everyone

We're feeling pretty romantic this month with some great offers not just for Valentine's Day but throughout the month of February. Our Cover Story this month features an amazing gift from The Plantation Estates when a deposit is placed on one of their stunning villa plots. A meal for 2 at Pattaya's most romantic restaurant Cafe des Amis complete with champagne, flowers and even a VIP door to door service.

Another very romantic restaurant reviewed in this month's edition is the very pretty Aquapazza, which is a must for lovers of seafood. Then of course all our wonderful hotels in Pattaya: Royal Cliff, Andaz, Intercontinental, Avani, Pullman and Sugar Hut Resort will provide excellent settings for the 14th! So go on spoil your loved one and if you're looking for some inspiration for Valentine's gifts turn to page 42 where we have some great ideas for you.

Keeping in the pink - don't forget Pink Polo on the 22nd. For a donation of just 1,500 thb that goes to The Queen Sirikit Centre for Breast Cancer and includes a fabulous lunch buffet and afternoon tea, you get a great day. Of course, the dress code is pink!

See you there!

Gloria x

gloria@pattayatrader.com

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THE
PLANTATION
ESTATES



ANDAZ | PATTAYA
JOMTIEN BEACH



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DISCOVER PATTAYA



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Celebrate Love and Tradition

at Royal Cliff Pattaya:

Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day Dining Experiences

While the celebrations for Christmas and New Year have come to an end, the season of festivity is far from over! January & February brings two of the most anticipated celebrations of the year: Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day. These special occasions offer the perfect opportunity to gather with loved ones, indulge in exquisite cuisine, and create lasting memories.

Chinese New Year Feast – A Family Celebration

(31 January & 1 February 2025)

Start the year with a memorable gathering at Huang Chao Restaurant on 31 January 2025, where Royal Cliff has prepared four specially crafted set menus to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Feast on traditional favorites like Roasted Duck with Honey, Shark Fin Soup, and Wok-Fried Wagyu Beef, complemented by delicious desserts like Gingko in Coconut Cream Soup or Chilled Sago Cantaloupe in Coconut Syrup. Each set menu is designed to serve 2-3 people, making it the perfect choice for families and friends to enjoy a taste of tradition together.



For those who want to explore an even wider variety of Chinese dishes, Panorama Restaurant invites you to their Chinese New Year Buffet on 1 February 2025 from 5:30 pm onwards. Indulge in an impressive array of dishes, including Crackling Pork Belly, Roasted Chinese Duck, Pork Ribs in Hong Kong Style, and Shrimp Shao Mai. Don't forget to try the Hot and Sour Szechuan Soup to kick off your meal, followed by an assortment of decadent desserts and homemade ice creams to satisfy your sweet cravings.

Valentine's Day – A Romantic Dinner by the Sea

(14 February 2025)



Two weeks later, celebrate Valentine's Day in the most romantic way—by the poolside, with the ocean as your backdrop and a stunning sunset to set the mood. This year, Royal Cliff's Valentine's Dinner theme is "An Evening in Venice." Let the timeless beauty of Venice sweep you away as the soft glow of candlelight, the sound of gentle water, and gondola-shaped centerpieces create a dreamy, intimate atmosphere. Every detail—from shimmering gold accents to whimsical Venetian masks—sets the stage for a truly enchanting 5-course dining experience.

Delight in the flavors of a specially curated menu, featuring an exquisite selection of dishes such as Herb-Crusted Australian Lamb Rack, Grilled Wagyu Beef Tenderloin with Foie Gras, or a vegetarian option of Over-Baked Layered Eggplant. Each dish is crafted to make this night truly special for you and your loved one.

Don't Miss Out – Limited Seats Available!

Whether you're welcoming the Lunar New Year with your family or sharing a romantic evening with someone special, Royal Cliff's exclusive dining experiences are designed to make these moments unforgettable. Seats are limited, so be sure to reserve your spot today!

Celebrate love, tradition, and togetherness at Royal Cliff—where every meal is a memory in the making.

For more information or to reserve a table, please contact the Guest Relations team at (+66) 38 250 421, **Email:** gro-main@royalcliff.com, **Website:** www.royalcliff.com **Line ID:** @Royalcliff, **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/royalcliff



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Cafe des Amis

Established 2008 Fine Dining in Pattaya

Reserve your table now for a truly unforgettable evening!

Let us host your perfect evening. Relax between courses or before your meal at one of our four locations: a Cocktail Lounge, Gin bar, or the serene garden area for cigars.

This romantic restaurant is a top choice for celebrating special occasions in Pattaya



Early bird please be seated at your table to place your food order before 17.30 to receive 10% discount on your entire bill.

Does not include special events & some special dates unless stated on those menus.

Discover one of the largest wine cellars in the region, boasting a selection of over 100 wines, with 10 offered by the glass, and 20 varieties of champagne.

FOR BOOKINGS, RESERVATIONS (recommended) or WALK INS contact

0840264989 English 0860468774 Thai

LINE blucda Whatsapp @Cafe Des Amis 17.00 - 23.00 (Every Day)

Last arrival time to order dinner 9.30/10pm Soi 11, Thappraya road Pattaya. Private parking outside.

WEBSITE



LOCATION



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12:00 pm - 6 pm at Thai Polo Pattaya



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SCAN FOR LOCATION



PINK POLO
LADIES TOURNAMENT



A SEASIDE SERENADE

14 FEBRUARY 2025

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◆ **DINNER AT FISH CLUB | THB 5,990++ per couple**

Dine by the beachfront with a 5-course romantic dinner, serenaded by live music and the soothing sound of the waves.

◆ **DINNER ON THE BEACH | THB 25,000++ per couple**

Indulge in a 5-course romantic dinner under a private gazebo, paired with a bottle of champagne and a beautiful bouquet. Set against stunning sunset views, every moment will feel magical.

Limited availability – Reserve your unforgettable evening today!

ANDAZ | PATTAYA
JOMTIEN BEACH

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- Exquisite pass-arounds delightfully served in timed rounds throughout the day
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WEDNESDAY

05:30 PM - 10:30 PM

THOMAS REIMER GUIT/VOC,
JOHN TRANE SAX



NEW

SAMOA Diam: 150cm H: 75

Aluminium Structure
Teak Slat Table Top



VANATU

Aluminium Extendable Table
Eucalyptus Slat Table Top



White or Black Structure
L: 203 / 313cm x 100 x H: 75cm



MARINA

Bar Table Set

White or Black

Teak Slat Table Top

Dining Table Set
6 Armchairs & cushions included

~~59.990.-~~
39.990.-

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3 X 4M & 3.5 X 3.5M

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13.990.-

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White - Gray - Taupe

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1.290.-

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999.-

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5.990.-

Folding Chairs

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A TREAT FOR ALL THE SENSES!

BY GLORIA JONES

Acquapazza is more than just a restaurant, it is a feast for all of your senses. The music is authentic Italian. The tiles and decorations, even the aqua blue bottles for the sparkling water, carry the same lovely colour theme in the picturesque interior. As soon as you step inside this charming, cozy restaurant you feel transported from a bustling Thappraya road into a Sicilian haven.

Then there's the food and the question of what to choose! A good place to start is the Specials of the Day board. However, to really get the most of your visit I recommend you put yourself in the hands of Giovanni and follow his suggestions. For example, for the wine choice he recommended a 2023 Sicilian Regaleali (actually the House White) that we found fresh, refreshing - it paired perfectly with all the food he then served us.



This started with an amazing Seafood Antipasti that was so much fun to share. The variety of delicious seafood on it included: Trout, Milk fish, Mantis shrimp, anchovy, tuna, deep fried snapper, crispy octopus, crispy prawns and clams. Also some wonderful smoked salmon prepared in house (Gravalax style) using rock salt, sugar and their special marinade for 14-15 hours, accompanied by a beautiful mayonnaise and swoosh of squid ink sauce.

Everything had been specially selected by Giovanni who really knows his seafood. He goes out every day to a variety of local markets and knows many of the fishermen personally having lived in Thailand for 27 years and speaking the language. Talking of language: "Buona Sera Welcome Back" is a phrase you will hear him say often because once you have eaten at Acquapazza you are sure to return. Also Italian is a lovely language to listen to and in this restaurant there are many Italian diners nostalgic for the tastes and sounds of the "old country".



After the starter we enjoyed some amazing Mantis Shrimp (from Trang near the Cambodian border). Giovanni told us that this is traditionally served as a pasta dish served with a tomato sauce, but his way is to prepare it a white sauce with the shrimp sauteed in white wine. Then there was tuna fish lightly seared in sesame oil and in breadcrumbs baked in the oven in a pistachio crust.

As a final treat, just as the desserts were being offered Giovanni's talented wife came to join us all and play the mandolin. Of course when she played "O Sole Mio" there were gasps of delight from the assembled diners, what a lovely accompaniment to the wonderful traditional Italian dessert selection. As you would guess, this changes each night but on our night, included traditional Neapolitan Easter Cake (actually enjoyed the whole year long), some home made Lemon Meringue Pie and beautiful chocolate Roccobaba.



Try this charming restaurant for yourselves and be sure to allow plenty of time to really enjoy what is not just a fine dining meal but a wonderful experience.

391/154 M.10 THAPPHRAYA RD., NONGPRUE,
BANGLAMUNG PATTAYA, CHON BURI,
086 075 2021

INFOACQUAPAZZA@GMAIL.COM

4:30PM - 11PM (CLOSED WEDNESDAY)

FALLING IN LOVE WITH FOOD

As Valentine's day falls in the month of February this is a time when we will be bombarded with mentions of love and romance. Many partners look for ways of celebrating the 14th by showing their loved ones how much they are valued. However, did you know that there are foods we can eat the whole year long that produce chemicals and hormones to give the same pleasing effects? Oxytocin, for example, is often referred to as the "love hormone". Released by the body's pituitary gland it is involved in several important physiological and psychological functions that play a crucial role in social interactions. By fostering feelings of trust, empathy, and bonding between individuals oxytocin also plays a key role in the forming of emotional attachments between parents and children, romantic partners and friends. Certain foods can help boost oxytocin production, support oxytocin levels and encourage positive emotional experiences.



Chocolate

Chocolate for example, particularly dark chocolate (with a cocoa content of 70% or higher), is rich in compounds that can stimulate the production of oxytocin. The flavonoids and phenylethylamine (PEA) in chocolate are believed to have mood-enhancing properties. PEA is a naturally occurring compound associated with the sensation of love and excitement and the release of oxytocin. Additionally, consuming chocolate can trigger the brain's reward system, providing pleasure and contributing to feelings of joy and well-being.



Oysters

Oysters have long been considered an aphrodisiac, which refers to their ability to enhance sexual desire and performance. While the evidence of this is largely anecdotal, oysters certainly have a high content of zinc and omega-3. These nutrients are known to help reduce stress, and improve emotional well-being therefore creating a good environment for oxytocin production especially when combined with positive social interactions and physical touch.

Ginger and Turmeric

Both ginger and turmeric have powerful anti-inflammatory properties which have been used for centuries in traditional medicine to reduce inflammation. Inflammation can lead to increased stress and anxiety, which inhibits the release of oxytocin. So by reducing inflammation, these spices help boost oxytocin production. Additionally, ginger and turmeric are often associated with warmth and comfort, which can also promote positive emotional states conducive to oxytocin release.



Serotonin, often referred to as the "feel-good" chemical, plays a key role in regulating mood, sleep, and overall emotional well-being. Whilst it is produced in the brain, the precursor to serotonin, an amino acid called tryptophan, is obtained through the food we eat. Certain foods can help increase the availability of tryptophan in the body, thereby supporting serotonin production.

Fruits

Certain fruits contain compounds that support serotonin production and boost mood. They provide vitamins, antioxidants, and fibre that are important for overall brain health. Pineapple for example contains an enzyme called bromelain, which enhances the bioavailability of serotonin. It is also rich in vitamin C, which helps reduce stress and supports overall well-being. Bananas are rich in vitamin B6, which is necessary for converting tryptophan into serotonin. Additionally, they provide natural sugars that offer an energy boost without causing sharp spikes in blood sugar, supporting stable mood regulation. Blueberries, strawberries, and raspberries are also packed with antioxidants that reduce oxidative stress and inflammation, supporting brain health.



love

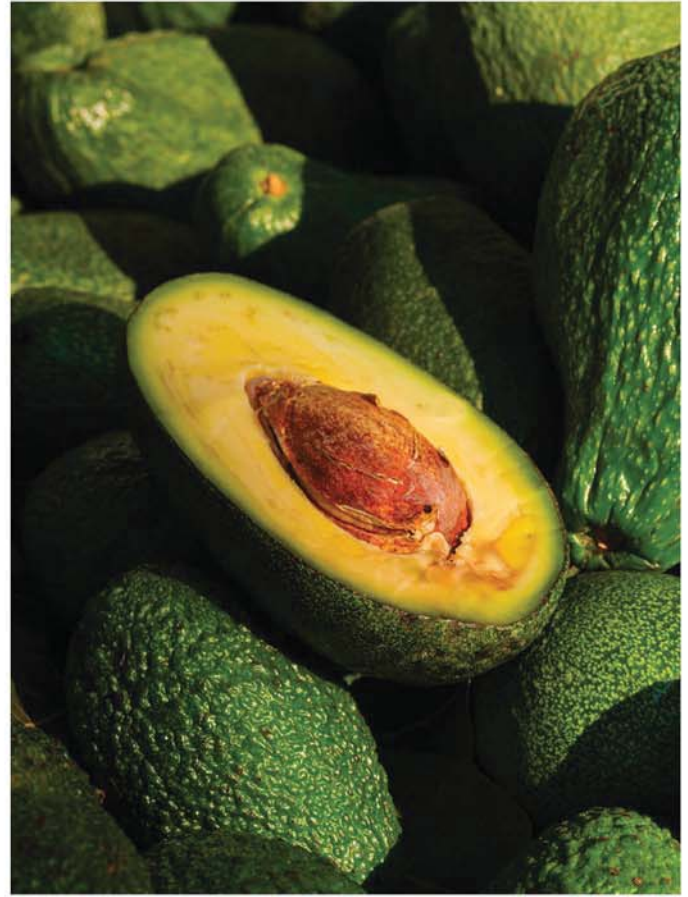
Nuts and seeds

Nuts and seeds such as walnuts, almonds, flaxseeds, and sunflower seeds, are excellent sources of tryptophan. They also provide healthy fats, fibre, and essential vitamins and minerals that support overall brain health and hormone balance. Consuming these nutrient-dense foods can promote better sleep, alleviate anxiety, and enhance emotional well-being by encouraging serotonin production, making them a valuable addition to a serotonin-boosting diet.

Avocados

Avocados also contain healthy fats, as well as potassium, fibre, and a variety of vitamins. The healthy fats in avocados help to nourish the brain, supporting the production of neurotransmitters, including serotonin. Additionally, the creamy texture of avocados may provide a pleasurable eating experience, which in turn can stimulate the release of oxytocin through positive sensory feedback.

While the production of both oxytocin and serotonin is influenced by many factors, including physical touch and emotional experiences, the foods we eat can play a supportive role in boosting their levels. So to help reduce stress, improve mood, and create a biological environment conducive to helping you to improve your mood try incorporating these foods into a balanced diet. Combined with positive social interactions they can help improve overall emotional well-being and even some feelings of love!



All You Can Eat Seafood Buffet!

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No discount is applicable for free-flow packages.



Scan the QR code to view The Beach Club Pattaya Menu.

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No discount is applicable.



SCAN TO BOOK A TABLE!



Happy Hour On The Beach!

Everyday / 2-5pm @ The Beach Club Bar
Drinks from THB 140 net

Scan the QR code to view Happy Hour Menu.

The Beach Club Pattaya | Open every day from 11am until 9pm (10pm on Friday & Saturday)

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Thai Tapas Tuesday

499 Baht

Thai Tapas Tuesday 499 baht for 2 Perfect for sharing.
 Not sure what Thai food you like? Want to eat like the Thai's do?
 Now you can choose 5 dishes from our Thai Tapas menu and we'll serve them up with 2 complimentary servings of steamed rice.
 Maybe you'll find a new favourite.



- NOT SURE WHAT TO TRY?
 NOW YOU CAN PICK 6 DIFFERENT DISHES
 PERFECT TO SHARE
 INCLUDES 2 SERVINGS OF STEAMED RICE**
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 เสริฟพร้อม ข้าวสวย 2 จาน**
- Spring Rolls Pork
ปอเปี๊ยะหมูทอด
 - Fried Chicken in Ginger)))
ไก่ผัดขิง
 - Dried fried Pork Neck
หมูทอดแดดเดียว
 - Chicken Satay with Peanut Sauce
สะเต๊ะไก่
 - Stir fried Vegetables
ผัดผักรวม
 - Spicy Prawn Soup)))) (Tom Yam Soup)
ต้มยำกุ้ง
 - Deep fried Crispy Pork with Thai Kale))))
คะน้าหมูกรอบ
 - Green Curry with Chicken or Pork)))
แกงเขียวหวาน ไก่ หรือ หมู
 - Yellow Curry with Chicken or Pork)
แกงกะหรี่ ไก่ หรือ หมู
 - Chilli Basil & Garlic with Chicken or Pork or Beef))))
ผัดกระเพรา ไก่ หมู หรือ เนื้อ
 - Sweet & Sour with Chicken or Pork
ผัดเปรี้ยวหวาน ไก่ หรือ หมู
 - Panang Curry with Chicken or Pork or Beef))))
พะแนง ไก่ หมู หรือ เนื้อ

*portions are around 25% smaller than our regular menu

www.facebook.com/TheSportsmanPattaya www.sportsmanpub.com



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AVANI

Pattaya Resort

VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION AT AVANI PATTAYA

Get ready to swoon this Valentine's Day at Avani Pattaya Resort, where love is in full bloom, and mouthwatering dining adventures are calling your name! Whether you're coupling up or rocking the single life, we've got you covered with scrumptious bites and irresistible deals all month long. Treat yourself to sweet delights at The Pantry or whisk your date away for magical dinners with dreamy views - February is serving up all the feels and unforgettable flavours!

Here's what we've prepared for you:

AVANI ROOFTOP

Date: 14 February 2025

Price: THB 7,900++ per couple,
including a bottle of sparkling wine and a rose flower.

BENIHANA

Date: 14 February 2025

Price: THB 4,900++ per couple,
including 2 glasses of sparkling wine and a rose flower.

SALA RIM NAM

Date: 14 February 2025

Price: THB 2,500++ per couple,
including 2 glasses of Rosé wine and a rose flower.

THE PANTRY

Delicious combo set deals available from 1-28 February 2025.

Price: Starting from THB 179 net.

For more information, please contact Avani Pattaya Resort

T: 038 412 120 E: pattaya@avanihotels.com

218/2-3 Moo 10, Beach Road, Pattaya 20260 Thailand
AVANIHOTELS.COM



NATANAN'S

Restaurant

038 251 250

406/333 M.12 Thappraya road

natans2008@hotmail.com

HEMINGWAYS

JOMTIEN

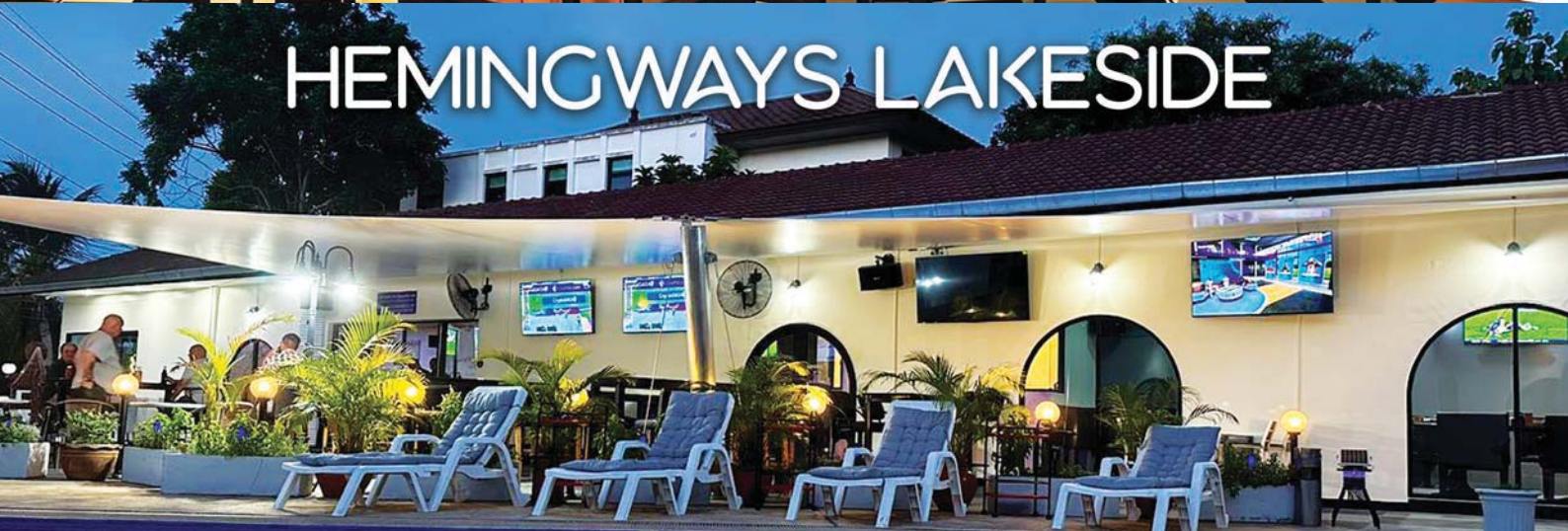


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Contact 064-620-9225
www.hemingwaysjomtien.com



HEMINGWAYS LAKESIDE



Hemingways Family Friendly Restaurant and Sports Bar on Mabprachan Lake has 14 Big Screen TVs with Sports on Demand, an Outside Pool and indoor air conditioned seating. Its a great place to enjoy Traditional pub grub, Daily and Weekly specials an of course the popular Sunday Carvery. Plus now there's a Kids area complete with playstations, pool table, table tennis and table football.



11/ 2.moo 4 pompranamit road
Mabprachan lake



Tel: 095 078 2567
hemingwayslakeside.com

February's Pizza

**Tomato sauce, mozzarella, fresh tomato,
Iberico Ham & Manchego cheese**



Find us daily from
11 AM to 10 PM 306/92-94 Thappraya
Tel: 09 247 514 93





Why Spaying or Neutering Your Pet Is a Must: More Than Just Population Control

Deciding to spay or neuter your pet isn't just a health obligation—it's a powerful choice for a happier, healthier, and more harmonious life together. Let's dive into why this procedure is so beneficial for your furry family member and the wider community.

A Gateway to a Healthier Life

Cancer, Begone: Sterilization slashes the risk of certain cancers to nearly zero. Female pets avoid the high risks associated with ovarian and breast cancers, while males sidestep testicular cancer entirely. It's a proactive health measure that can significantly extend the quality and duration of your pet's life.

Roam No More: An unsterilized pet often feels the call of the wild a bit too strongly. They might attempt daring escapes to explore beyond the backyard in search of a mate, risking injury or worse. Sterilized pets, however, are more content to stay home, drastically reducing their risk of accidents or becoming lost.

Behavioral Bliss

Cooler Tempers, Happier Homes: Neutering often takes the edge off a male pet's aggression. Fewer fights, less biting, and more peace at home—it's a change that can make your pet a more sociable and gentler family member.

Spraying? What Spraying?: Marking territories inside your home isn't just unpleasant; it's messy. Sterilization nips this in the bud, leading to a cleaner living environment and a happier you.

Making a Dent in the Pet Population

Every pet deserves a home, but not every pet finds one. Overpopulation leads to millions of animals living as strays or being euthanized annually—a heart-wrenching reality. By choosing to sterilize your pet, you're part of the solution, not the problem. It's a responsible step that has a ripple effect, reducing the number of animals suffering without shelter or care.



Economic Sense

Think of sterilization as an investment. The upfront cost of the procedure pales in comparison to the expenses of caring for a litter of puppies or kittens. From feeding and vaccinations to potential emergency medical care, the costs can quickly add up. Plus, many local governments impose fines for unlicensed breeding, which can be another avoidable expense.



Conclusion: A Simple Decision with Profound Impacts

Sterilization is more than a medical procedure; it's a decision that affects the emotional and physical well-being of your pet. It fosters a deeper, more peaceful bond and ensures many happy years ahead. So, when considering the full spectrum of benefits, spaying or neutering isn't just a part of pet care—it's a cornerstone of responsible pet ownership.

Ready to make a smart choice for your pet? Speak with your vet today and take a step towards a safer, healthier future for your furry friend. They'll thank you for it—with plenty of purrs and tail wags!



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Courses not to miss... MALAYSIA.

Photo by Els Club Teluk Datu

Malaysia boasts a diverse array of golf courses, numbering over 200 throughout the country, so we have selected a few to add to your list.

The Els Club Desaru Coast, to the southeast of peninsular Malaysia, is home to the Ocean Course designed by Ernie Els with one of the most spectacular plots of land anywhere in the world overlooking the South China Sea. Their Valley Course was designed by Vijay Singh, is a completely different test with small greens and sharp undulations. The layout is as dramatic as you'll find anywhere in the world. <https://www.elsclubmalaysia.com/>



Photo by Els Club Desaru Coast



KLGCC's is Kular Lumpur's premier golf club with two championships 18-hole courses. Their West Course features superbly manicured fairways and flawless aesthetic beauty and has hosted both PGA and Asian Tour events. The newer East Course is a challenging parkland-style layout framed by a wide variety of captivating flora and fauna that has hosted LPGA events. <https://www.klgcc.com/>

The Els Club Teluk Datai is situated on the mystical island of Langkawi and is renowned for its spectacular mountain scenery and virgin rainforest. The course opened in 1992, as Dalit Bay Golf Club and was completely renovated by Ernie Els reopening for play in 2014. The Rainforest Course meanders its way through million-year-old rainforest cascading down to the turquoise waters of the Andaman Sea and is overlooked by the marbled limestone peaks of the Mat Cincang Mountains. <https://www.elsclubmalaysia.com/>

To book your golf vacation across SE Asia check out www.golfasian.com

This article was published in Asian GOLF & More and to download the full magazine FREE go to <https://www.asiangolfandmore.com/>



Photo by KLGCC

FOR THE LOVE OF SPORTS

BY STEVE WADE

Sports have always had the power to bring people together, whether you're spectating or participating, and I think this particularly applies to communities like Pattaya. It's a very important part of the social fabric of the city and I'm sure Pattaya would be a very different place without it. When I first arrived in the Kingdom some 13 years ago, it was football that dominated the landscape and one of the great joys of life at the time was going to your favourite bar and having a few cold beers whilst watching a Premier League match being played some 6000 miles away. Almost every bar and sports lounge in the city had TVs showing sport from around the world.



Of course Pattaya is much the same now, with sports viewing playing a vital part in the social cohesion that brings people together, not to mention the crucial financial benefits it brings. Whether it be football, Rugby, Formula 1, which is really popular here, or any other option that gets people out and watching, sport plays its part in keeping people connected and businesses ticking over.



It's not just the watching of sport from around the world that's important here. Participation and live events also play their part. Pattaya has several top quality golf courses within an hour's drive and the numerous societies and clubs that arrange multi weekly visits to these courses are a great way for long term residents to meet friends regularly and spend a day out on the fairways, or in the trees in my case! The game can be extremely frustrating at times but there really is nothing like being out for the day with like minded people, on a beautiful golf course with the sun shining. The city also has a thriving lawn bowls scene, which again is a lovely way to spend the day among friends.

Pattaya is not blessed with many live major sporting events but the one that stands out is the World Waterjet Series, held every year at Jomtien Beach and which takes place this year in December. If you've never been, it really is exciting viewing and is well worth a visit.



One of our favourite live events here at Discover Pattaya is the Queens Cup Pink Polo event, hosted by the Thai Polo Club and taking place this year on February the 25th. It really is the most wonderful day out and for a donation of 1500 Baht, which goes to charity, you can enjoy some top quality sport in beautiful surroundings. It also shows another side of Pattaya which doesn't always get the attention it deserves.

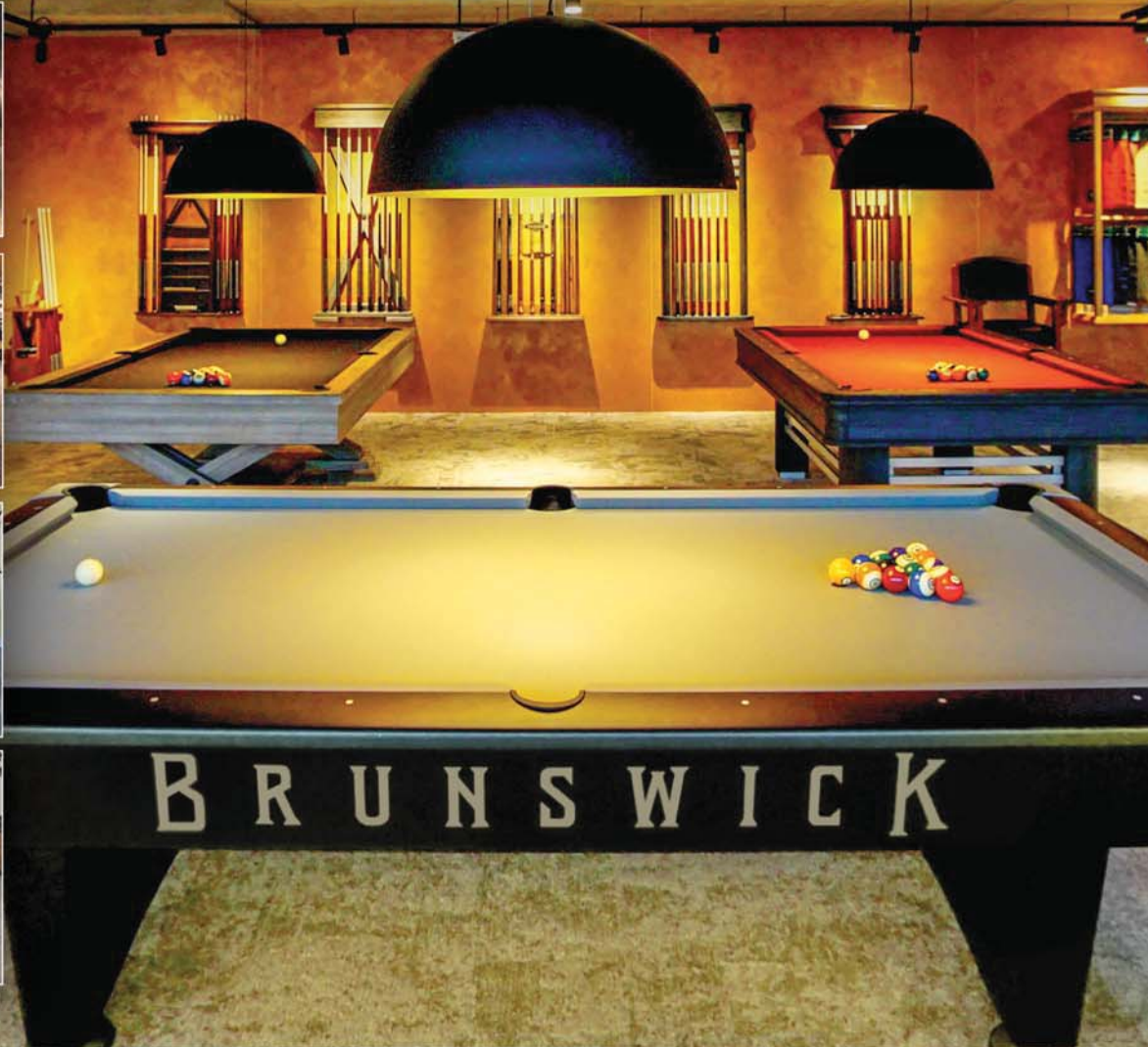
In the valentines month of February, this is my love letter to sport and the vital part it plays in our lives here in Pattaya. Long may it continue.

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THAILAND INTERNATIONAL
BOAT SHOW
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Thailand International Boat Show powers growth of luxury tourism in Thailand

Phuket, 9 January 2025 - The third edition of the **Thailand International Boat Show** was officially opened today by the Prime Minister of Thailand, Ms. Paetongtarn Shinawatra. Attended by dignitaries and distinguished guests from central and local government, including Mr. Phiphat Ratchakitprakarn, the Minister of Labour, Mr. Sorawong Thienthong, Minister of Tourism and Sports, Ms. Thapanee Kiatphaibool, Governor of the Tourism Authority of Thailand, and Mr. Sophon Suwannarat, the Governor of Phuket, as well as industry stakeholders, including Mr. Ditapong Thitadilok, Executive Director of Port Macchanu and Mr. Thakoon Boonmak, Executive Vice Director of Port Macchanu, and Thai tourism leaders, the opening ceremony recognised the importance of the show as an economic driver for luxury tourism and a platform to showcase Thailand's soft power while supporting the sustainable growth of Thailand's marine industry.

The show runs from 9 - 12 January, 2025 at Phuket Yacht Haven Marina and organisers expect more than 6,000 visitors from around the world to attend the double-sized show and view the record-breaking line-up of boats and onshore exhibitors this year.



Commenting on the importance of the show to Thailand's marine tourism industry, **Mr. David Hayes, CEO of Thailand International Boat Show organisers JAND Events** said, "The Thailand International Boat Show showcases the best of the best in Thailand's yachting and luxury lifestyle industries. Following a successful 2024, we have doubled the size of the show and welcome brands and businesses from all over the world to exhibit this year. We are expecting thousands of high net worth individuals from across Thailand and around Asia to visit the show and cement Phuket and Thailand as the leisure yachting hub of Asia."

From day boats to superyachts, there are 54 boats on display this year, complemented by marine gadgets and boat services, charter agents, lifestyle products and luxury real estate. Cessna and Beechcraft by Textron Aviation return as presenting sponsor of the VIP Lounge which for the first time will be hosted on the Superyacht Lady Eileen II, and also for the first time the Exhibitors and Captain's Lounge will be hosted on board the superyacht Free Bird.

In addition to the exhibitor displays, restaurants, pop-ups and many activities throughout Phuket Yacht Haven Marina will engage visitors of all ages, including Children's Day activities on Saturday 11 January.

The **Thailand Yachting Conference**, which took place the day before the show, welcomed 150 delegates and expert speakers from across Asia-Pacific and together with the show creates a 360-degree B2B2C platform that connects industry stakeholders and showcases Thailand's marine leisure industry to the world.



The third Thailand International Boat Show is taking place 9 - 12 January, 2025 at Phuket Yacht Haven Marina and is open daily from 13:00 - 20:00 except on Sunday 12th January when the show closes at 19:00. Admission is free. For more details, visit www.thailandinternationalboatshow.com.

About JAND Events

JAND Events is a multinational team of Thailand-based professionals passionate about events. Led by CEO David Hayes who has over 30 years experience in the Events, Hospitality and Travel industries, JAND Events is the chosen partner for brands such as Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy, L'Oréal, Givenchy, Kenzo and more. JAND Events and Thailand International Boat Show are trading divisions of JAND Group Co., Ltd.

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Sports Update

For February by Steve Wade

The Six nations Rugby gets going in February and there is a full round of matches on both the weekend of the 8th and the 22nd. Highlights include England v France and Scotland v Ireland on the 8th - 9th and Wales v Ireland and England v Scotland on the 22nd - 23rd. The odds suggest that there's nothing between France and Ireland this year but England are far from forlorn hopes and the winner should emerge from these three. Rugby fans can look forward to some terrific contests whatever the outcome.

The Premier League continues with fixtures throughout the month and the highlight is undoubtedly the visit of Liverpool to Manchester City on the 23rd. With the Manchester club just beginning to recover from an extremely sticky patch and Liverpool currently six points clear at the top, nothing less than a victory for City will give them any hope of competing for the title once again. Liverpool also travel to Goodison Park to play Everton on the 12th, which will be the last Merseyside derby played at the famous old ground before Everton move to their new stadium.

The top of the division is starting to get a familiar look to it again, with Liverpool, Arsenal and Manchester City all bound to be involved come the end of the season. The exception is Nottingham Forest, who are on a magnificent run under the new manager and show no signs of flagging. European football or even a Champions League spot must be a realistic ambition for the Tricky Trees now, given their current position.

A major event taking place this month is the Invictus Games, being held in Canada between the 8th and the 16th. It's a multi-sport event for wounded, injured and sick servicemen and women, both serving and veterans. Because Canada are hosting, this plans to be the first games where winter adaptive sports including Alpine skiing, Nordic skiing and wheelchair curling are included, and if you've never watched these games before and want to see some of the bravest men and women around giving their all to a sport, give it a try. The level of competition is astonishing and no quarter is given or asked for!



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What makes a good school?

By James Kemp Deputy Head of
Mooltripakdee International School

This question has sparked and divided the opinions of parents and educators since time immemorial. I have to confess to having a dog in this fight: as the Deputy Head of School at MIS, I am going to make the case for why I feel MIS is a good school. Before I begin to wax lyrical about our school, it is worth taking some time to explore what parents look for when choosing a good school for their children.

A longitudinal survey by EdChoice, asked this question to parents in the USA, with some interesting results. Location seems to be the most commonly cited factor, with 42% of parents saying it is an important consideration when choosing a school. Next, parents suggest that their child's ability to fit in and make good social connections at the school are mentioned, somewhat surprisingly these come above academic reputation and safety. For me, this is encouraging, as parents seem to be prioritising their child's well being above their results. Given the decline in young people's mental health during lockdown and online/hybrid learning, I think we all recognise the importance of putting wellbeing first.

So then, now for me to make my case. In my previous role, I visited MIS for a tour and to interview the Head of School, Matt Coutts, for an article that was published here in Discover Pattaya. When I did, three things struck me, almost immediately.

The first were the smiles on the faces of the students and how friendly they were. It seemed that no matter where I went, I was greeted with, 'Good morning', and children asking me my name. I have spent time in dozens of schools, both in the UK and internationally, and this really doesn't happen everywhere.

Secondly, the greenery and colour throughout the campus. The school's owner, Dr. Wiravan Mooltripakdee, is determined that the school should avoid a corporate feel and that the students should see MIS as a second home. Plants and nature are everywhere, which means that despite the school's size, well over 1000 students, you still feel like you could be walking through a friend's garden.

Finally, was my conversation with the Head of School. As always, during my walk around I ask the Head what the core values of the school are. Over the years, I have heard many different answers, some focusing on academic rigour, some on driving standards, others on creating ambitious students who will go on to thrive in adult life. While these are all laudable goals, Matt's answers spoke with me: he was focused exclusively on the students, particularly their happiness and wellbeing. He spoke about the parents, how the school's owner saw them as part of the family and how it was important that they felt welcome and comfortable when they visited. When I asked him to try to encapsulate these ideas in a sentence he said, 'MIS wants to make the international school experience available to as many students as possible'. This idea of inclusivity, of community and of putting students and their families first, struck a chord with me and is a big part of the reason why I chose to join the leadership team at MIS.

MIS is going through a period of rapid change. Student numbers have grown exponentially in the last few years, which is a great sign, and we have recently opened a raft of new facilities. No large organisation is without its strengths and areas where it can improve, but I have been impressed with the willingness to develop, to introduce new and better practices, and to offer the best education we can, while striving to keep the school at a price point where it is accessible for as many parents as possible.

In a recent survey carried out by the school, over 90% of our parents said they would recommend us to a friend or relative. 95% of our parents felt that they could communicate their wishes to their child's teacher and that they were listened to. And it was great to hear that 94% of our secondary school students said that they were satisfied, or very satisfied, with their overall school experience - and if you have spent much time with teenagers, you know that that is a minor miracle!

MIS is a Cambridge accredited school and examinations centre, following the British curriculum, culminating in IGCSE and A Level qualifications. While our students achieved some remarkable results, I am also proud of the school's commitment to never become just an 'exam factory'. Part of my role is to oversee our Safeguarding and Wellbeing Teams. These are made up of teachers, special educational needs coordinators, school counsellors and nurses, who work tirelessly to support our students. I am very proud of the work they do and that while we strive for academic excellence, the best interests of our students will always be paramount.



The school has ambitious plans for its future, of which I am thrilled to be a part. Our challenge though is to recognise all the things we are doing well, the environment we have created and how overwhelmingly happy our students and families are, so that as we develop and improve, we don't lose the community spirit that so many have come to feel a part of and love.



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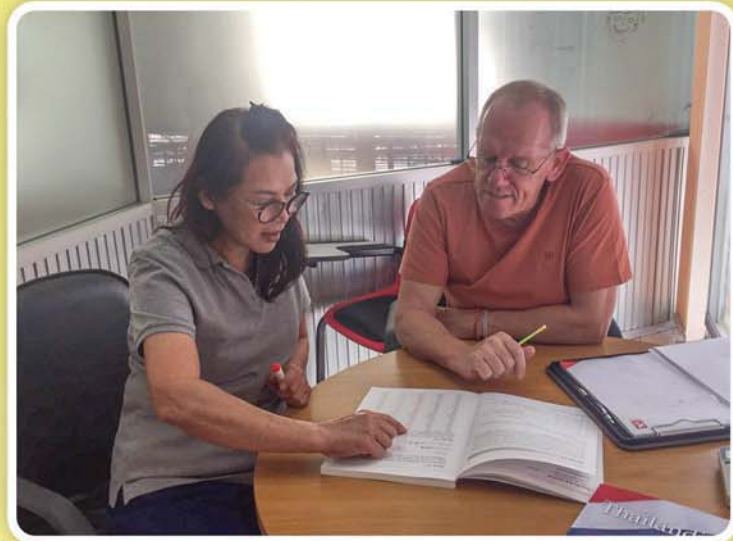
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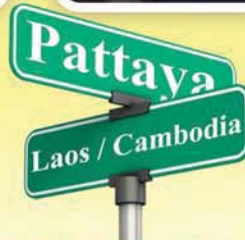
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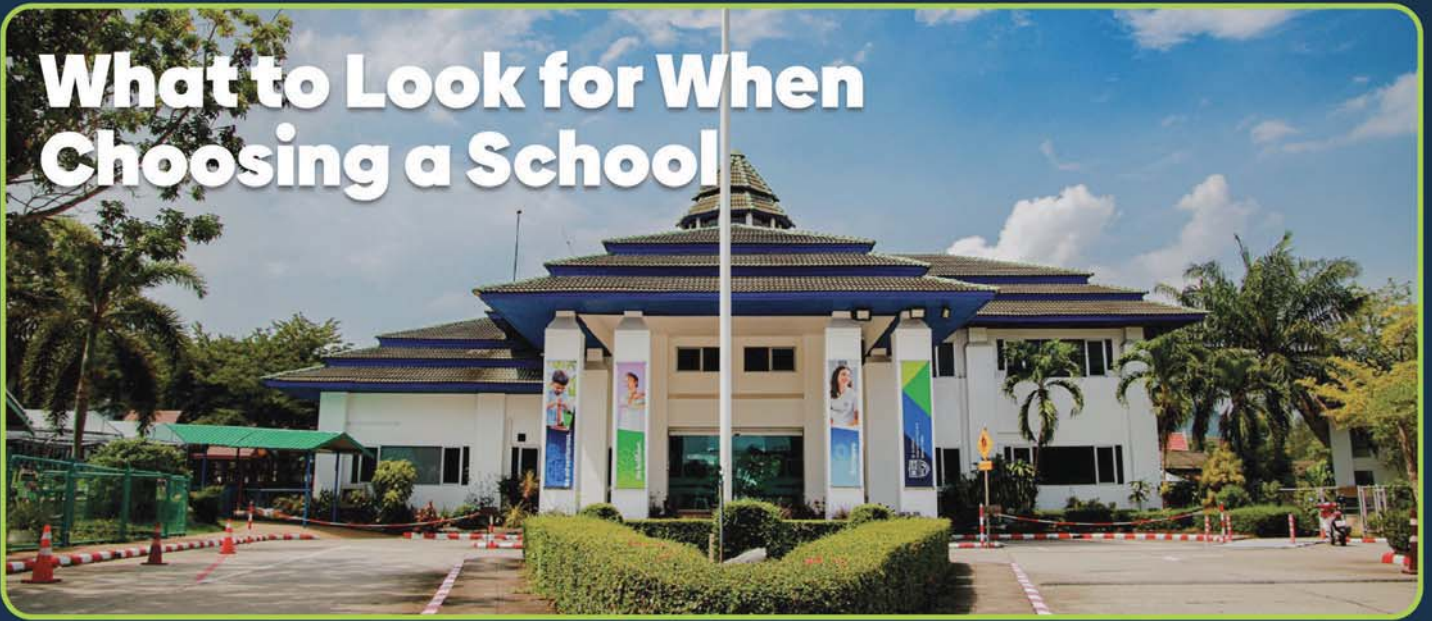
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What to Look for When Choosing a School



Imagine stepping onto a campus where nature and learning intertwine seamlessly. The first thing you notice is the expansive green spaces, designed not just for play but as a living, breathing classroom. With their unique curriculum that integrates eco-conscious learning and immersive activities like The Duke of Edinburgh Award or camp fire cooking in the Forest School, this is a school that embraces the environment as a teacher. Welcome to St. Andrews International School, Green Valley, Rayong.

Located in the heart of Thailand's Eastern Seaboard, Green Valley is more than just an international school. It's a thriving community built on three key pillars: Ecoliteracy, Personalised Learning, and Holistic Education. Let's explore why these pillars make Green Valley the school of choice for families seeking an exceptional education for their children.

Eco-literacy: Cultivating Global Stewards

Under the leadership of Charles Grayhurst, Green Valley has earned the prestigious Green Flag Award, establishing itself as a beacon of sustainability in education. Through its eco-embedded curriculum and emphasis on hands-on experiences, students don't just learn about the environment – they actively engage with it. Whether designing software solutions to identify recyclable plastics, building air quality meters, or growing hydroponic plants, students consistently make interdisciplinary connections between subjects. This approach makes learning authentic and provides engaging experiences that students greatly benefit from.

"Ecoliteracy fosters students with a deep understanding of the natural systems of our world. We encourage them to recognise the limits of these systems and to think critically about sustainable solutions," shares Ms. Rosie, Ecoliteracy Coordinator.



Personalised Learning: Nurturing Individual Potential

At Green Valley, each family, student, and teacher work together as a team to focus on shared ambitions for education. The core emphasis is on strengths, areas for improvement, and, most importantly, progress – academically, socially, and beyond the classroom.

With over 80 co-curricular activities (CCAs) ranging from outdoor education to robotics, the school's personalised approach empowers students to explore their passions.



"Our 5-year-old son started at Green Valley recently, and we've seen a complete transformation in his character. He's excited to go to school every day, and the small class sizes mean teachers truly understand and support him," says an Early Years parent.

For families in the Dutch Stream Programme, the school offers a unique opportunity to maintain their mother tongue while benefiting from an international education. "Our girls continue to study Dutch while enjoying the vibrant multicultural environment here," shares a Dutch family.

Holistic Education: Preparing Students for a Global Future

Green Valley believes in providing a high-quality education that nurtures the whole child – academically, socially, and emotionally – within a strong community that fosters personal values.

The school's commitment to holistic education complements its outstanding academic achievements. Through the International Baccalaureate (IB) programme, students develop critical thinking, global awareness, and the skills to make meaningful contributions to the world.

With a consistent pass rate of almost 100% within the IB Diploma, and with individual averages amongst the highest in Thailand, Green Valley stands out as a leader in academic excellence. Many students achieve "Top in the World" or "Top in Thailand" accolades year after year and secure places at prestigious universities, including Imperial College London, UCL, and MIT.

Pierre Walker, a 2017 graduate now pursuing a PhD at Caltech, reflects on his experience: "The opportunities I had – from building a hovercraft to participating in a science fair – were unmatched. My teachers guided me every step of the way, from university applications to interview preparation."

His father echoes this sentiment: "It was one of the best decisions we ever made. The school's holistic approach gave my children both depth and breadth in their education."



Why Green Valley?

Choosing the right school is one of the most important decisions a family can make. At St. Andrews International School, Green Valley, children receive an education that balances academic excellence with character development, creativity, and environmental stewardship. With its award-winning eco-initiatives, personalised learning approach, and a vibrant international community, Green Valley offers a unique experience for families in the Pattaya-Rayong area.

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FOR THE LOVE OF MOVIES



The awards season has well and truly started with both the Golden Globes, Critics Choice and Baftas being early indicators of what to expect in terms of winners at next month's Oscars. The nominations for these were delayed multiple times last month due to wildfires in Los Angeles, so at time of writing the official announcements had not been made. However, if like me, you love these awards just to look at the predictions before the actual event as recommendations of good films to watch.

After the bad old days of Covid and the writers' strike there have been some great blockbuster films totally disproving the theory that cinema is dead and that everyone will just stream films to watch at home. (Rather like those same naysayers who keep saying print is dead - which of course we disagree with). Sure we're not in the golden age of going to the cinema as much as we once did, but spectacular films that really deserve a big screen and full blown sound system are still taking the big bucks. We all remember the phenomenon that was "Barbenheimer" with both Barbie and Oppenheimer not losing any revenue by being released at the same time and Oppenheimer really cleaning up at all of the awards shows. Last year saw a new nickname "Glicked" given to the Gladiator 2 and Wicked releases. Wicked may certainly pick up a few nominations and possible wins with Ariana Grande strongly tipped for Best Supporting Actress.



Personally I would love to see Denzel Washington get a nomination as best Supporting Actor for Gladiator 2 but there are mutterings that this may not happen which would repeat history as he also didn't receive a nomination for Ridley Scott's 2007 film American Gangster. Talking of Ridley Scott I would love to see him grab Best Director Oscar as he should be acclaimed for his life time contribution to movies generally. Also for inspiring us all by continuing to work when he is currently 87 years of age!

Dune 2 has also been financially very successful because of the vision of another great director Denis Villeneuve and a rather talented cast especially the beautiful 4: Florence Pugh, Austin Butler, The Triple threat Zendaya and extremely talented Timothy Chalamet. Speaking of who, Timothy is strongly tipped for his portrayal of Bob Dylan in A Complete Unknown. An achievement made all the more amazing by the fact that he spent 5 years preparing for the role and sang all the songs live. However he will probably be up amongst some stiff competition from the likes of Adrian Brody (Golden Globes winner in this category) in The Brutalist which may also be a serious contender for Best Film category.



Another famous actress who put in the time and effort to appear in the Biopic of Maria Callas is Angelina Jolie although she has to contend with the likes of Pamela Anderson, Demi Moore, Cynthia Erivo, Mikey Madison and Karla Sofía Gascon (Emilia Perez) for best actress. Incidentally Emilia Perez is strongly tipped to win Best International Feature



So for Best Picture you can see that Rotten Tomatoes doesn't predict one clear winner.

- 🇵🇷 93% [Anora \(2024\)](#)
- 🇵🇷 93% [The Brutalist \(2024\)](#)
- 🇵🇷 80% [A Complete Unknown \(2024\)](#)
- 🇵🇷 93% [Conclave \(2024\)](#)
- 🇵🇷 92% [Dune: Part Two \(2024\)](#)
- 🇵🇷 88% [Challengers \(2024\)](#)
- 🇵🇷 76% [Emilia Pérez \(2024\)](#)
- 🇵🇷 92% [September 5 \(2024\)](#)
- 🇵🇷 89% [The Substance \(2024\)](#)
- 🇵🇷 88% [Wicked \(2024\)](#)



Possible Spoilers: [Sing Sing](#), [Nickel Boys](#), [A Real Pain](#),

Shoulda Been a Contender: [The Piano Lesson](#), [Babygirl](#)

I just really hope that next month's Oscars winners in all categories come up with some surprises rather than simply following the same pattern as the previous awards ceremonies. It will make that whole event much more fun and the acceptance speeches less well rehearsed. But whatever the outcome it will certainly be worth watching. The 97th Oscars will be held on Sunday March 2, hosted by US comic Conan O'Brien at the Dolby Theatre at Ovation Hollywood and will be televised live on ABC and more than 200 territories worldwide.



What's on The Small Screen



Cobra Kai Season 6 Part 3

Ralph Macchio, William Zabka, Courtney Henggeler

The fallout from Kwon's death at the Sekai Taikai semifinals forces characters to confront the consequences of their actions.



The White Lotus Season 3

Leslie Bibb, Dom Hetrakul, Jason Isaa

After arriving at an exclusive Thai resort the guest's vacation takes a dark turn, revealing their deepest secrets and innermost desires.



Reacher Season 3

Alan Ritchson, Maria Sten, Frances Neagley

Reacher goes undercover to rescue an informant held by a haunting foe from his past, uncovering a vast criminal enterprise and confronting unfinished business from his own life.



A Thousand Blows Season 1

Malachi Kirby, Stephen Graham, James Nelson-Joyce

From the creators of Peaky Blinders comes a period drama following two Jamaican friends who navigate the treacherous world of Victorian London's East End.



1923 (Yellowstone) Season 2

Harrison Ford, Jacob Dutton, Helen Mirren

The Dutton family faces a relentless winter and new threats that could extinguish their legacy, forcing Spencer on a perilous journey home to save them.



Zero Day Season 1

Robert De Niro, George Mullen, Jesse Plemons

A former U.S. President leads a commission to investigate a devastating cyber attack that caused nationwide chaos and fatalities.



What's on The Big Screen



Captain America: Brave New World

Anthony Mackie, Sebastian Stan, Harrison Ford

Sam Wilson as he navigates an international crisis following a meeting with President Thaddeus Ross, leading him to uncover a global conspiracy.



A Complete Unknown

Timothee Charamet, Edward Norton, Elle Fanning

Biographical drama about Bob Dylan's meteoric rise in the 1960s music scene.



The Seed of the Sacred Fig

Elijah Wood, Theo James, Tatiana Maslany

Story of an investigating judge who grapples with paranoia and societal upheaval in Tehran as political unrest escalates.



Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy

Renee Zellweger, Emma Thompson, Hugh Grant

Bridget Jones navigates life as a single mother of two after the death of her husband, Mark Darcy while also dealing with the challenges of dating a much younger man.



Cleaner

Daisy Ridley, Clive Owen, Taz Skylar

An ex-soldier turned window cleaner must save her brother and the other hostages when a group of activists hijack an energy company's annual gala.



Last Breath

Woody Harrelson, Simu Liu, Cliff Curtis

True story of a group of seasoned deep-sea divers who embark on a perilous mission to rescue their trapped crewmate from the depths of the ocean.

HIM

The DJI Mini 3 Pro is a compact and powerful drone designed for aerial photography and videography. It boasts impressive features like 4K/60fps video recording, True Vertical Shooting, and advanced obstacle avoidance systems. Its lightweight design makes it easy to transport and fly, while its powerful motors and long flight time provide ample opportunities for capturing stunning aerial footage. The Mini 3 Pro is a versatile and user-friendly drone that caters to both beginners and experienced pilots, offering a seamless and enjoyable flying experience



The GoPro HERO12 Black is the ultimate action camera, capturing stunning 5.3K video at an incredible 60 frames per second. Its groundbreaking Max HyperSmooth 6.0 stabilization delivers incredibly smooth footage, even in the most demanding conditions. With improved low-light performance and a longer battery life, the HERO12 Black empowers you to capture epic adventures with ease and share them in breathtaking quality.

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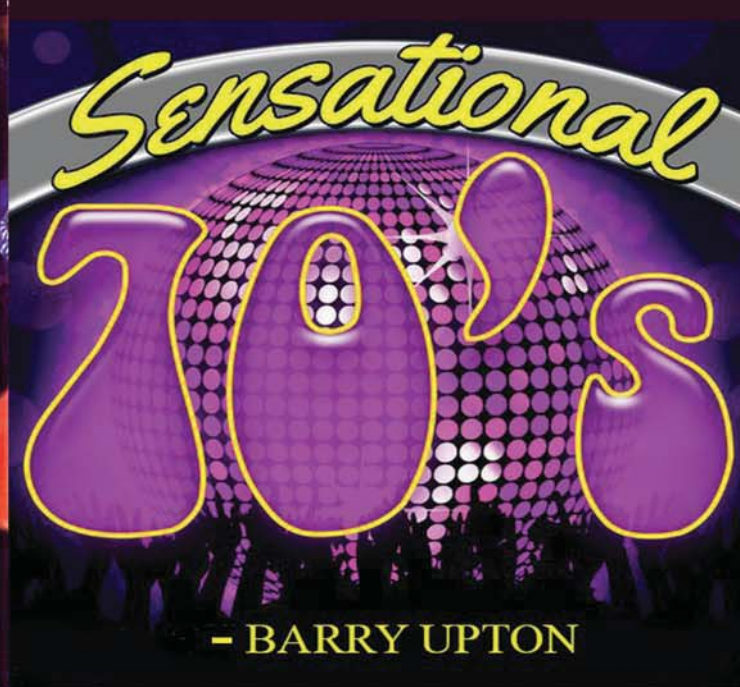
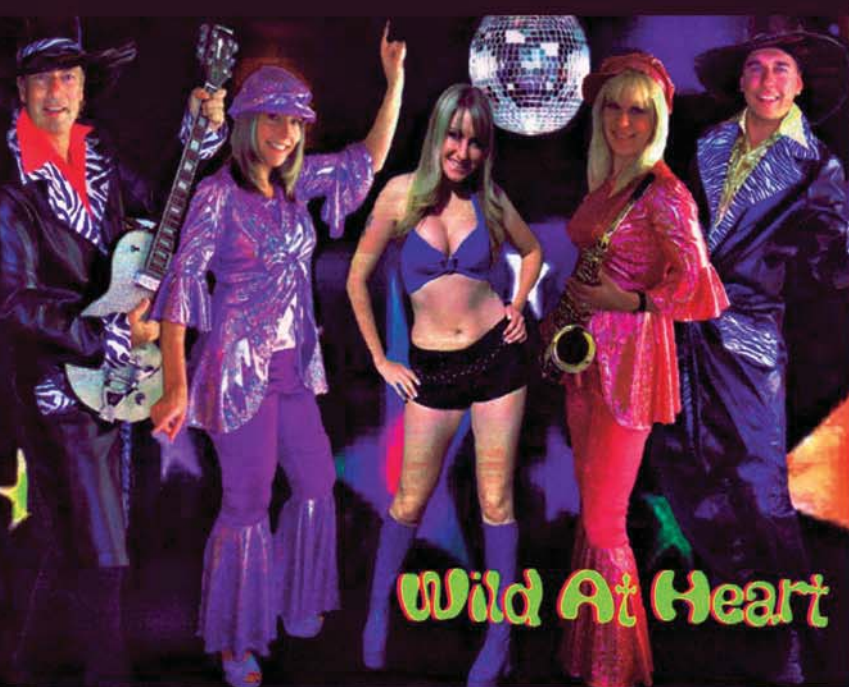
Valentine's TECH GIFTS



The Foreo Luna 3 is a revolutionary facial cleansing and anti-aging device that combines T-Sonic pulsations with soft silicone touchpoints to deeply cleanse pores, gently exfoliate, and reduce the appearance of fine lines and wrinkles. Its ergonomic design and compact size make it perfect for travel, while its hygienic and long-lasting silicone construction ensures easy cleaning and maintenance. Experience a spa-like facial cleansing experience at home with the Foreo Luna 3.



Kindle Paperwhite Signature Edition This premium e-reader boasts an adaptive front light that automatically adjusts to your surroundings, plus wireless charging for convenient power-ups. Enjoy crisp, glare-free text on a high-resolution display, and immerse yourself in thousands of books with a single tap. With adjustable warm light, you can customize your reading experience for optimal comfort in any environment.



There's no doubting that the influence of Seventies music on world culture was outrageous. A decade that brought us flared pants, disco balls, and music so eclectic that it could confuse even the most die-hard rock purists. This was an era where the only thing more varied than the hairstyles was the music itself, ranging from sparkly Glam Pop to the unrestrained exuberance of disco and the heavy riffs of Rock.

Let's start with my favourite act of the early Seventies, T.Rex. Yes, I had a satin jacket and put glitter on my face at my earliest gigs while boogying with my guitar to Get It On, Telegram Sam, etc..

Also, there were Rock Gods! The Seventies gave us legends like Led Zeppelin and Queen. These artists cranked out riffs and lyrics so iconic that they have significance even today.



Then there was disco, the glitter-coated, dancefloor-fueled phenomenon that defined the latter part of the decade. Music wasn't just about listening anymore. It was a full-body workout and if strutting your stuff under a disco ball with a drink in hand wasn't on your weekend agenda in the Seventies, were you really living?

Disco produced some of the grooviest jams, from the Bee Gees' "Stayin' Alive" to Donna Summer's sultry anthems like 'I Feel Love' & 'Love To Love You Baby'.

When Punk Music turned up, the whole music business was turned upside down and rawness was the flavour of the day. With guitars blaring, the message was clear: 'You're not going to tell me what to do!'

Let's not ignore that rock music had its wild side, which sometimes spiraled into chaos. Rock was the soundtrack to a generation that believed it could change the world, even when it sometimes forgot there was a world outside a music festival.



Enter the singer/songwriters. Gentle souls who provided the soft counterbalance to the boisterous disco and rock fest. James Taylor, Carole King, Carly Simon, and Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, not forgetting Elton John, who stole the spotlight with their heart-felt ballads and sometimes their impressive collection of sunglasses. Plus, Steely Dan and the Doobie Brothers, a couple of my favourites, with their complete musicality. But let's be honest, if the Seventies were a period of unfettered stylistic exploration, then some artists took expressive fashion to a whole new level.

Seventies music wasn't just a soundtrack, it was a movement propelling social change. From anti-war protests to civil rights, the rhythms and lyrics inspired people to stand up, sing out, and take to the streets. 'What's Going On' by Marvin Gaye wasn't just a question, it became an anthem that led to conversations about love, peace, and the fate of humanity.

If you ever wondered why modern pop stars broadcast social messages from their platforms, thank Seventies musicians for setting that stage. It's clear that Seventies music did more than hypnotize audiences. It fought cultural battles, challenged societal norms, and made the world a bit weirder (and maybe we like it that way). Seventies music shaped a generation, and we're all better for the grooves we're still dancing to today. (Cue my former Seventies themed party band, WILD AT HEART).



For more fab and groovy songs with vids produced by Barry Upton, check out his YouTube channel FAB BAZ MUSIC TV.

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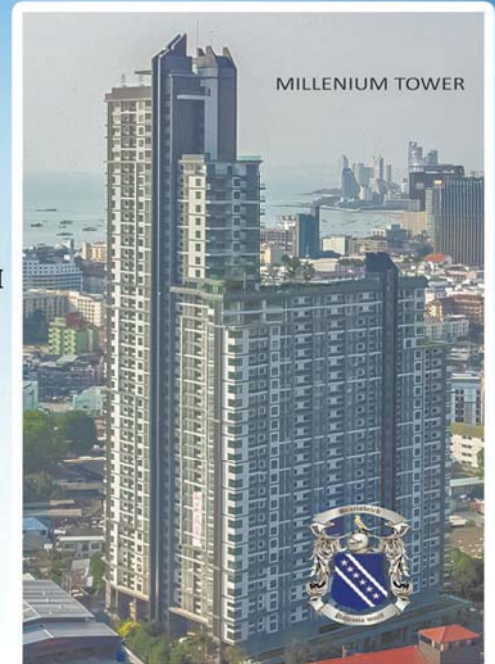
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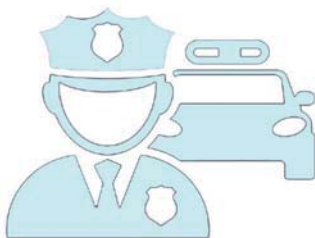
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Phone: 038 420- 802, 038-420 805 0-3842-9325
Banglamung Police Station, Sukhumvit Highway)
Phone: 038 221 800, 038 221 331
Tourist Police: Phratamnak Road
Emergency Hotline: 1155
Phone 03841 4669, 03842 5937,

AMBULANCE AND HOSPITALS

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PhoneTel: 038 428 374-5. Tel: 038-427 575
Bangkok Hospital Pattaya
PhoneTel: 038-259-999. 0-3825-9911
Pattaya Memorial Hospital
PhoneTel: 038 488 777. 038-429 422

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Emergency Phone: 199
Fire Brigade Pattaya
PhoneTel: 038-425-943,
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Sea Rescue
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SUDOKU FEBRUARY 2025

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SOLUTIONS

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Pilsen, Czech Republic: The World Capital of Beer!

By Jason Rupp and Carla Marie Rupp

We agreed to go drink beer in and around Pilsen, the capital of the beautiful Pilsen Region in the Czech Republic— which many say is the home of beer. Would it be the best and most delicious we have ever tasted? We would find that out as Pilsen has been the home of Pilsner beer ever since the special pale lager was born and brewed there in 1842 by the Bavarian brewer Josef Groll. Beer is called “Pivo” in the Czech Republic, it is inexpensive and of high quality. Different kinds of hops bring different aromas and tastes and while this is the birthplace of Pilsener beer, the city has beer to suit all tastes.



The largest brewery in the country is the Pilsner Urquell Brewery, right in the center of Pilsen. We experienced it on an informative, eye-opening day tour. We had lunch onsite in their restaurant and tried all their freshest beers in the tasting room. The worthwhile tour involves lots of history and seeing the current operation—as well as tasting delicious beer in glasses straight from barrels. Tasting at their experimental craft beer department called Proud also turned out to be very fun as well, especially trying their “weird” beers, where brewers have fun experimenting with new tastes. Unforgettable! “It’s like the Disneyland of Beer! All You Can Drink Pilsner Urquell buffet & Tour in Pilsner” is the YouTube we made on Jason’s channel.

We sampled and learned about varying types of beer around the region even Raven craft beers. A “pils” and or pilsner has its name from the town’s name. Pilsen is the spelling in English and German, but is known internationally and spelled locally as Plzen. It’s in western Czech Republic – not far from the German border and has a population of just under 200,000. We explored the city – as well as the Pilsen Region, with its smaller towns beer spas and breweries.

Our adventure began with a morning train from Prague on the Regio line. On arrival, we went to our rooms at Courtyard by Marriott Pilsen. One of the best features of Courtyard Pilsen, a business hotel, is its delicious buffet breakfast, which got us ready for a day of beer. After breakfast we set out on a guided city walking tour, followed by a local Czech lunch. Typical Czech food is meat, potato, dumplings, and hearty soups – absolutely feel good food. During our tour we did a lot of walking, stopping in front of many locations, hearing about the architecture and stories of people who made up the history of the city. It was founded by the Czech King Wenceslas II in 1295 at the confluence of four rivers.

Ringed by parks, Pilsen is blessed with a lovely old historic center, Old Town. We learned about the 19th-century Great Synagogue and the Cathedral of St. Bartholomew— an important Gothic church— in the Republic Square, the biggest main square in the Czech Republic. This landmark cathedral is the dominating feature in Pilsen. Its church tower is the tallest in the Czech Republic at 335.5 feet (102.26 meters), and there is a spectacular view from the top. Ever on the lookout for ideas for YouTube videos on the Jason Rupp channel, we knew this square would make a beautiful location for a barber video. We filmed the barber video, “Public shaving is a Sport I Can Play! Classic Barber Shave in the Square. Pilsen, Czech Republic.” right in the town square. We reasoned that in Europe it’s normal that everything happens in the main square; so why not a shave? The help of a handsome, skilled local barber Adrian was enlisted from local hipster barbershop, Shelby, to do the shaving. Jason got a classic wet shave in the center of the Pilsen central square. You would have fun seeing it online.





Pilsen is full of a lot of worthwhile attractions. While the most popular tour is at the huge Pilsner Urquell Brewery plant, there are other important sights not to miss. The Brewery Museum is a must. Here you go into an original brewing house from the 15th century and learn how beer was made before Pilsner Urquell was founded. It's entertaining and educational. Underground Plzen is another exciting, must-see attraction that involves walking through somewhat chilly tunnels for a fascinating hour to see where beer was stored and transported under the city center. Many of the artifacts here date back to the 14th century.

We also went to Pilsen to spend time with our friend and local tour guide Jaroslav Pomp. He showed us around so many places and knows so much about the Pilsen Region and what to enjoy. He's the author of the book *Beer Rebellion (Pivni Rebelie)*, about Czech beer culture. We were happy to find nightlife and a lively entertainment and music scene in Pilsen. Jaroslav told us he is a member of a rock and blues band called Beer Reminder. He said he was playing at a rock concert and we were glad to see him perform on vocals and guitar. We had a lot of fun joining him and his friends afterwards, going to Zach's Bar, and the Cider Bar, with live music on stage, even venturing inside a hard metal bar called Parliament Club.

Pilsen turned out to be the glorious beer paradise we were hoping for. This fourth largest city in the Czech Republic surpassed our expectations, and we can recommend a visit. It was the European Capital of Culture in 2015. Culture includes the first Czech book printed in Pilsen and the second oldest Czech theatre group begun here. You'll never forget a trip to Pilsen. We won't. We said a lot of "Cheers" in Czech ("Nazdravi!"). There is a lot to do in between drinking beer. It took a week for us to get settled in and feel at home. Then we even stayed longer because we loved it a lot in the Pilsen Region, exploring the various villages, the breweries, castles, historic mansions, a monastery and restaurants. Zlata Krava spa and a family spa in Chodovar were our favorites.



The Puppet Museum and the Techmania Science Center could be on your list, or the Patton Museum. You will enjoy the Region; especially if you want the freshest beer imaginable! Without exaggeration, we found the best world-renowned beers with amazing recipes. We long to go back. Pilsen has a vibe visitors can love. It's walkable and affordable with big value. There is easy access from Prague, only 48 miles (78 kilometers) away. Complete tourist information about the Pilsen Region can be found at: www.turisturaj.cz and at www.facebook.com/turisturaj/.

Jason Rupp and Carla Marie Rupp are freelance travel journalists. Discovering new places is their passion. They enjoy sharing adventures and writing about their trips. Jason Rupp on YouTube is their main channel, with the theme of travel & pamper. Their emails for tips are jasonruppy@gmail.com and carlaruppy@gmail.com.



LAMPANG, THE HISTORIC AND TIMELESS CITY

Chapter 2 – Politics, Economics and Society

POLITICS:

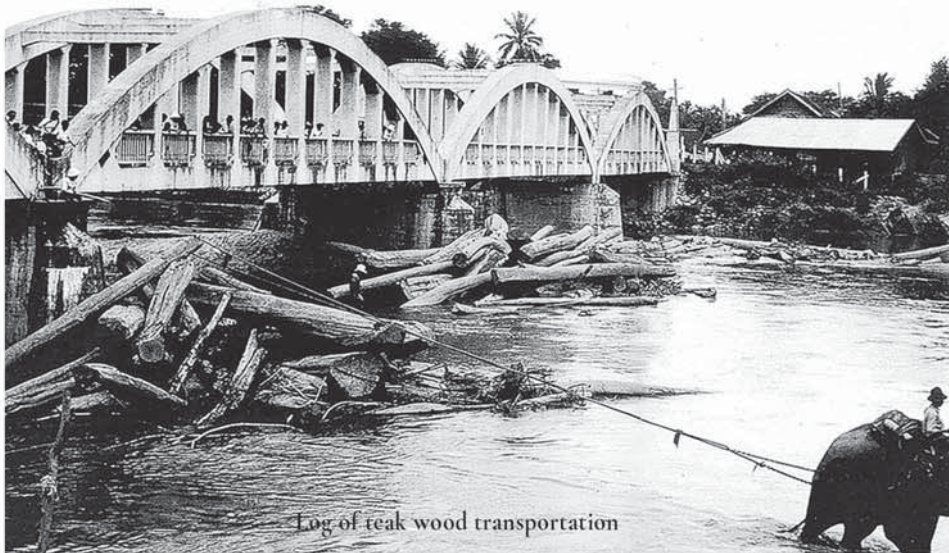
In the reign of King Rama V, the government system was authority centralization. The governed areas were divided into municipality regions. Lampang was under the region of Phayap (Northwestern) Region together with Chiangmai, Lamphun, Nan, etc., in 1900 whilst Lampang City was still ruled by the prince under the dominion of Siam Kingdom. The last prince of Lampang is Prince Boonyawat Wongmanit.

ECONOMICS AND SOCIETY:

Lampang was modernized when the northern route railroad from Bangkok arrived on 1st April 1916. By that time, Bangkok had motor cars in replacement of horse carriages. So, all the obsolete horse carriages that were used to buy from England in the reign of King Rama IV had been overused. Then all horse carriages were transported to Lampang by train. That is the first time they were used as taxis of the city and later has become the show case of Lampang for tourist's sightseeing tour of Lampang City until now.



Prince Boonyawat Wongmanit, the last prince governor of Lampang.



Log of teak wood transportation



Horse Carriage Taxis in front of Lampany Railway Station in the past



Louis T. Leonowens



Log of teak wood moved by elephant



Teak wood cutting process

FORESTRY IN LANPANG:

In 1899, Louis T. Leonowens opened his company in Lampang named Louis T. Leonowens Company Limited that was granted for forestry concession from Siam government at that time. Lampang was the center of forestry business that made Lampang quite a busy city. After the forestry booming period, Lampang became a busy city again at the time of World War II in 1939 when the downtown was full of Japanese soldiers. There were many entertainments complex such as night clubs, restaurants, Thai opera house and opium smoking house (which was still legal at that time)

In the next issue, we will present you with Lampang Temple and City Tour.

ลำปาง นครแห่งประวัติศาสตร์ที่อยู่เหนืออากาศเดา บทที่ 2 การเมืองการปกครอง เศรษฐกิจ และสังคม

การเมืองการปกครอง : ในรัชสมัยพระบาทสมเด็จพระจุลจอมเกล้าเจ้าอยู่หัว รัชกาลที่ ๕ การปกครองเป็นแบบรวมอำนาจเข้าสู่ศูนย์กลาง โดยแบ่งพื้นที่การปกครองของประเทศสยาม เป็นมณฑลเทศาภิบาล มีข้าหลวงปกครอง โดยลำปางขึ้นอยู่กับมณฑลพายัพ เช่นเดียวกับเชียงใหม่ ลำพูน น่าน พะเยา ในปี พ.ศ.2443 ขณะนั้นลำปางปกครองโดยเจ้าผู้ครองนครซึ่งขึ้นตรงต่อมณฑลพายัพ เจ้าผู้ครองนครลำปางองค์สุดท้ายคือ เจ้าบุญวาทย์วงษ์มานิต

เศรษฐกิจและสังคม: ลำปางได้เข้าสู่ยุคใหม่เมื่อทางรถไฟจากกรุงเทพฯ ได้สร้างมาถึง โดยขบวนรถไฟเที่ยวปฐมฤกษ์มาถึงลำปางในวันที่ 1 เมษายน พ.ศ.2459 ตรงกับรัชสมัยพระบาทสมเด็จพระมงกุฎเกล้าเจ้าอยู่หัว รัชกาลที่ ๖ ในยุคนั้น กรุงเทพฯได้นิยมการใช้รถยนต์ แทนที่รถม้าซึ่งได้สั่งเข้ามาจากประเทศอังกฤษในรัชสมัยพระบาทสมเด็จพระจอมเกล้าเจ้าอยู่หัว รัชกาลที่ ๔ เมื่อไม่ได้ใช้รถม้าแล้ว รถม้าเหล่านี้ก็ได้ขนส่งมายังลำปางด้วยขบวนรถไฟ ตั้งแต่นั้นมา รถม้าจึงใช้เป็นรถโดยสารสาธารณะและรถรับจ้างในตัวเมือง ในปัจจุบันรถม้าได้กลายเป็นเอกลักษณ์ของลำปาง และใช้เป็นที่ทางวัฒนธรรมแก่นักท่องเที่ยวทั้งในและต่างประเทศ โดยเปลี่ยนเป็นพาหนะรับจ้างเหมาชมเมือง



เจ้าบุญวาทย์วงษ์มานิต



สถานีรถไฟลำปาง

ความคึกคักของเศรษฐกิจในยุคการทำไม้ : ในปี พ.ศ.2442 มีบริษัทสัญชาติตะวันตกหลายบริษัทได้รับสัมปทานทำป่าไม้สักจากรัฐบาลสยามในยุคนั้น ในลำปางผู้ได้รับสัมปทานทำไม้คือบริษัททูลย์ ดี.เลียวโนเวนส์ จำกัด ลำปางจึงเป็นศูนย์กลางอุตสาหกรรมการทำไม้สักซึ่งทำให้ลำปางกลายเป็นเมืองเศรษฐกิจที่คึกคัก หลังจากยุคเฟื่องฟูของอุตสาหกรรมป่าไม้ ลำปางได้เข้าสู่ยุคสงครามโลกครั้งที่ 2 ซึ่งในเอเชียตะวันออกเฉียงใต้เรียกว่า สงครามมหาเอเชียบูรพา ในปี พ.ศ. 2482



รถม้าลำปางยุคแรกเริ่ม



การชักลากท่อนซุงไม้สักด้วยช้าง



สำนักงานบริษัททูลย์ ดี.เลียวโนเวนส์

ในตอนนั้นย่านกลางตัวเมืองลำปางคลาคล่ำไปด้วยเหล่าทหารญี่ปุ่นที่เข้ามายึดสยามเป็นทางผ่านไปประเทศพม่า ซึ่งพวกเขาจะมาหาความสำคัญในแหล่งสถาบันเทิงซึ่งกลายเป็นย่านบันเทิงกลางใจเมืองอันประกอบด้วย ไนท์คลับ ภัตตาคาร ร้านอาหาร ร้านถ่ายรูป โรงละครร้องชื่ตงก๊ก นอกจากนั้นยังมีโรงสุบ่่นที่คนยุคโน้นเรียกกันติดปากว่าโรงยาฝิ่น ซึ่งเป็นทั้งคาสีโนและโรงสุบ่่นไปด้วยกัน (ยุคนั้นการสุบ่่นยังถูกกฎหมาย) ในบทนี้ได้นำเสนอภาพความเปลี่ยนแปลงของจังหวัดลำปางจากยุคโบราณสู่ยุคใหม่ ฉบับต่อไป จะนำเสนอสถานที่ในยุคสัมปทานป่าไม้ที่ยังหลงเหลือเป็นเอกลักษณ์และสถานที่ท่องเที่ยวของลำปาง อีกทั้งพาชมโบราณสถานและวัดวาอารามดั้งเดิมในตัวเมืองลำปาง



การตัดไม้สัก



Discovering The Imperial War Museum (IWM)

One of the joys of visiting London is the fact that there are so many great museums to go and see. Many of them are completely free of charge and simply ask visitors to give a donation. Or if you are like me you will enjoy visiting their gift shops which also helps the cause as profits from these get ploughed back into upkeep and running costs. Most of us will have visited the famous British Museum, Natural History Museum, Victoria and Albert, and Science Museums but if you've never thought to go to the Imperial War Museum I can really recommend that you do so on your next trip to the UK's capital.

Established in 1917, during the First World War, the IWM's first director, Sir Alfred Knox, was tasked with collecting relevant artifacts, records, and personal accounts of the war. The idea behind this was to create a national memorial to the millions of soldiers who had died in World War I. The remit soon expanded to include the Second World War and be a permanent institution that would honor the experiences and sacrifices of the military personnel involved in both conflicts.

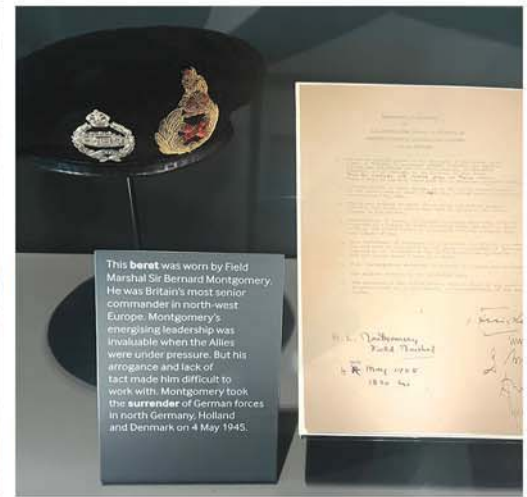
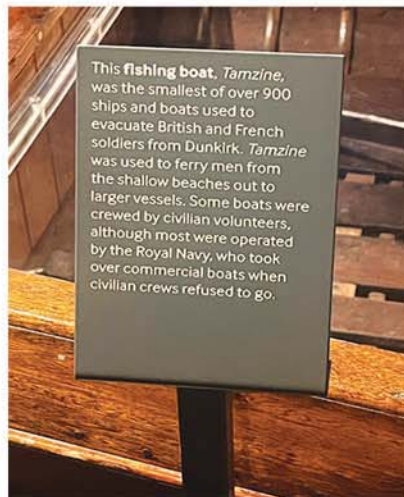


Located in Lambeth in what was once the Bethlem Royal Hospital, commonly known as Bedlam. The site's history as a mental asylum has been a powerful symbol of the contrast between the horrors of war and the human cost of conflict. As you walk around this impressive building you'll notice that the collections have been extremely well curated. They include a vast selection of artefacts, informative film clips, interactive maps and sound effects that really help to create an immersive experience. I found the information about the Battle of the Somme particularly interesting with terrifying statistics such as the death of 600,000 British and Allied troops who kept attacking the German soldiers fighting for every inch of ground with an estimated 500,000 German casualties. Despite all these fatalities and after a full 5 months of fighting in the worst possible conditions the battle ended in a stalemate with victory only "Going to the Mud". The creation of a lifesize trench that visitors walk through with sounds of whistles, gun shots and music create an eerily effective recreation of just how claustrophobic, unpleasant and generally terrifying trench warfare was.

On the next floor where the collections include not just military paraphernalia but also artefacts showing the importance of women to the war effort initially taking roles originally filled by men in factories and farms back in the homelands to the actual joining of the fighting as nurses, wrens etc. Also to the moving of children who had to evacuate the centre of London to safer locations In this area of the museum the recreation of a house so realistic it looks like a film set was very evocative. With great attention to detail the period wallpaper, furniture, china and even a radiogramme playing period music was very effective.

Over the decades, the Imperial War Museum expanded its scope and collections to reflect the changing nature of global warfare. As the years went on, the museum diversified its collections to include military artifacts, documents, personal testimonies, and even entire vehicles used in battles. Also to include conflicts in the British Empire, and later engagements such as the Falklands War and the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In the 1960s, the museum began to grow beyond its original building with the establishment of multiple branches in the United Kingdom with sites at IWM Duxford – Located near Cambridge, IWM North – Based in Manchester and the Churchill War Rooms – This site is dedicated to the life and legacy of Winston Churchill, the British Prime Minister during World War II. Located in the heart of London, the Churchill War Rooms offer an in-depth look at Churchill's leadership during the war and the operations of the British government from its underground bunker. - Perhaps next visit to London!



The museum's role is not only to collect and preserve artifacts but also to serve as a space for reflection, education, and research. Its mission is to provide insight into the historical and contemporary impacts of war and conflict, ensuring that future generations understand the lessons of history. One of the most effective ways it does this is by preserving the personal stories of those who lived through war with. These stories are often presented alongside physical artifacts, such as uniforms, weapons, and personal letters, helping to paint a fuller picture of wartime experiences.

The Imperial War Museum is not just a collection of historical artifacts; it is also an educational resource with a wide range of programs for students, school groups, families, and adult learners. As we look toward the future, the museum is likely to continue adapting its exhibitions to reflect contemporary challenges and conflicts.

The museum has recently undertaken projects to incorporate the effects of cyberwarfare and climate change as a factor in global conflict. With continuing investment and ongoing development of interactive digital experiences and virtual reality exhibitions the museum will continue to be accessible and relevant to future generations.



Events like this 1934 Nazi rally were stage-managed to emphasise mass support for Hitler

IWM stands as a testament to the resilience of the human spirit in the face of conflict. Through its dedication to preserving history, telling personal stories, and providing a space for reflection, it plays a critical role in educating the public about the cost of war. Its influence reaches far beyond its London headquarters, with branches that offer new perspectives on war, from the air to the ground to the frontlines of modern combat. As the world continues to grapple with the consequences of war and conflict, the Imperial War Museum will remain an essential institution for understanding and remembering the profound effects of human conflict.



Don't just take our word for it...

"What an amazing experience our interview was with Gloria from Discover Pattaya. It felt more like a social catch-up than a business interview. Gloria certainly did her homework and began the interview armed in advance with a great deal of knowledge about AMAR's journey. But what we have been particularly surprised about is the far-reaching effect our interview had. So many people in the past few days have mentioned the article and many of these individuals aren't even living in Pattaya! From all angles, Discover Pattaya just oozes professionalism and class."



"I have been working with Discover Pattaya and Pattaya Trader for more than 6 years and the service has been excellent. Gloria always comes up with great advertising ideas and even during the pandemic these have helped my business grow."

Mario



EdenKo

"The Edenko business has grown over the past few years in Thailand. Discover Pattaya has helped with our success and they are always very helpful with additional artwork when we require it"

EdenKo Thailand

HÄFELE

"Our relationship with Discover Pattaya has been an important part of our growth in this area. They are always on hand to update our advertising, feature new products and are generally very helpful with all aspects of our campaign."



♥ Loving Touches for your Home ♥

When we choose to rent accommodation there may be certain aspects that we cannot change depending on the specifications provided by the landlord. However, to make a rental a home there are a few things that we can try to do in order to make it our own. One way is with the furniture, for example, depending on whether the property comes furnished, unfurnished, or partly furnished. .

If the property is unfurnished, you will be buying your own pieces, so the first step is to measure the space and see what fits where. Obviously in this scenario you have a blank canvas so once you have the measurements you can simply start shopping for furniture to fill your space. Then the main considerations are your choice of quality, types of material, and colour.

If the property comes furnished, fear not, as a renter you can still make it your own by rearranging moveable pieces to suit your own personal style and taste. If partly furnished but still with room to add pieces then you can always add easy-to-move items such as favourite chair or ottoman to add your own personal touch. Even easier in terms of moving pieces into your rental are soft furnishings. Blankets, pillows, cushions and throws can add a touch of colour and texture to a sofa or your bed without making any permanent changes.



You might choose fabrics that fit in with your existing colour scheme or go for something entirely different for a bright pop of colour, to adapt your home to your own personal tastes. Much like soft furnishings rugs are a simple and easily removable item that can completely change the look and feel of a room. Size, colour, and pattern are all things to think carefully about when purchasing as you want your rug to enhance the room but not completely overwhelm your space.

New curtains or blinds can also add colour and character to a room. Or you may hate the ones offered and decide you need something more neutral-coloured to open up a room up and make it feel more airy and spacious. Work with your landlord on this especially if you are considering a long term tenancy. Perhaps by offering to part pay for the replacement if you can choose what's selected. The same could be a good idea if perhaps you need thicker, or properly backed curtains to guard against early morning sun flooding into your bedroom?

Whether walls within a rented property can be painted is entirely landlord-dependent. If allowed to, a fresh splash of paint in your rooms will allow you to personalise them to fit in with your own tastes and colour scheme and leave the space feeling clean and new. However, if painting the walls within your property is not an option, you may be able to consider painting the furniture. Giving your dark wood furniture a lighter shade or vice versa can change the entire appearance of a room.



The lighting in a room can set the tone and atmosphere you wish to create and is one of the most highly adaptable ways to change up your home. Lightbulbs come in a variety of different colours and levels of brightness, for example, you may wish to go for a warmer tone in your living room but bright, cooler colours in the kitchen and bathroom. Light fixtures are also very easy to change, and vibrant lampshades might allow a degree of personalisation.

The trinkets and accessories that you have collected over the years can be added to shelves, mantelpieces, and tabletops. Likewise photos in photo frames. Nothing makes us who we are like the memories we have made over the years. Therefore, there is no better way to personalise a rented property than by framing and hanging up our favourite photographs and pieces of artwork. However, be careful if you are hanging pieces of artwork that you don't damage the wall check DIY stores for no-hole picture strips without using drills and nails as your landlord will probably prefer to keep the walls looking smooth.

Whether real or artificial, houseplants can make any property feel more homely and bring that fresh outdoor feel indoors. This can be particularly beneficial for renters who do not have a garden attached to their home as it helps to provide that element of nature you may feel you are lacking. Green leafy plants are currently very popular, whether it be a large potted plant in the corner of a room or smaller ones dotted along shelves, they can add a sense of calm whilst also providing a splash of colour against plain, neutral walls.

You can also try adding some mirrors as these reflective surfaces can really open up a room and make it feel much larger than it actually is. Also providing an excellent way of enhancing natural light. As with the artwork it may be better not to hang these up on walls but rather place them on a stand or piece of furniture so that they can easily be used without interfering with your rental agreement requirements.

As a final tip you may want to consider taking photos of your rental property when you first move in. Many landlords will already provide this along with the rental agreement but if not it is certainly worth your doing so in order to return the property to its original state when you first took possession.



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GUSTAF REAL ESTATE NEWSLETTER

PATTAYA REAL ESTATE MARKET: A HOTSPOT FOR INVESTMENT

Dear Readers,

We are excited to bring you the latest insights into the Pattaya real estate market, which continues to show remarkable growth and potential for investors. Pattaya, known for its vibrant lifestyle and stunning coastal views, has become a premier destination for property investment

Key Trends and Insights:

- **Rising Demand for Condominiums:** The demand for condominiums, especially among foreign buyers, has surged by 20% compared to last year. This trend reflects the city's growing reputation as a luxury destination.
- **Luxury Property Boom:** High-end developments and luxury villas have seen a 30% increase in sales, attracting affluent buyers from around the world.
- **Tourism and Rental Yields:** Pattaya's booming tourism industry continues to drive demand for rental properties and holiday homes, resulting in attractive rental yields for investors.
- **Strategic Location:** Pattaya's proximity to Bangkok and well-connected transportation infrastructure make it an appealing option for both local and international buyers.

Driving Factors:

- **Government Initiatives:** The Thai government has introduced measures to promote foreign investment, including long-term lease agreements and relaxed ownership regulations.
- **Infrastructure Projects:** The Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) initiative, including new high-speed rail links and airport expansions, is enhancing the city's connectivity and driving up property values.
- **Expat Community:** The rise of the expat community and digital nomads has created a dynamic environment for property investors.

Challenges and Considerations:

- **Oversupply of Condominium Units:** The rapid development of condominium projects has led to an oversaturated market, which can impact rental yields and property prices.
- **Economic Factors:** Global economic concerns, such as inflation and political instability, have induced caution among potential investors.

Despite these challenges, Pattaya's real estate market remains resilient and offers lucrative opportunities for those looking to invest in a thriving and dynamic market.

Stay tuned for more updates and insights into the Pattaya real estate market. If you have any questions or need further information, feel free to reach out to us.

Best regards, Gustaf Real Estate



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