



Akorn

AKORN DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

INSPIRE

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Igniting Creativity: The Art of Wood Burning

Visit the studio and gallery of a Vietnamese artist in Hanoi who popularized pyrography or “the art of wood burning” in the country. Meet Ngo Van Sac and hear his story during this live painting demonstration. Fascinated by the intricate grain of wood, Sac crafts unique images by etching drawings into its surface through controlled burning. Using this technique, Sac engraves images onto wood, carefully navigating the fire's path to capture the nuances of shade and stroke, thereby encapsulating the mood of his portraits.

Cover photo: This month's featured cover image showcases one of Ngo Van Sac's artworks, created using his signature wood-burning technique.



Beyond Pho: Not Your Usual Vietnamese Noodle Experience

There's definitely more to Vietnam than its famous Pho noodles. From north to south, the country offers a wide variety of dry and wet noodle dishes, coming in all shapes, sizes and flavors. Embark on a flavorful foodie adventure in Ho Chi Minh City as you slurp your way through noodle delicacies that you may never have heard of or tasted before. Traverse small alleys, navigate neighborhoods and sit beside locals as you savor unique noodle varieties in this half-day gustatory experience.



Ms. Phan, one of our Akorn Insiders based in Ho Chi Minh City, takes you on a foodie adventure like no other, steering clear of tourist clichés in the bustling Vietnamese city. She provides unique tours, delving into local contemporary life and the hidden side of modern-day Saigon. Aside from being a creative producer and promoter, Ms. Phan is a staunch supporter of the creative community, actively collaborating with fellow artists.

INSPIRE | EXPLORE

A Journey to Thailand's Highest Peak

Explore Doi Inthanon National Park, a treasure trove of natural beauty in northern Thailand. Home to the nation's tallest mountain, Doi Inthanon, the park is home to several hill tribe communities and is a popular place for bird watching, with more than 383 species having been sighted here. Head for a 45-minute drive to the national park and visit Wat Phrathad Chom Thong, a sacred site that contains important relics of Buddha. Admire the natural beauty of Wachiratharn Waterfall and continue to the Royal Twin Pagodas, an iconic landmark on the top of the hill that honors the former King Bhumibol and his queen. Follow the Ang Ka Nature Trail or "Michael's Trail" for a short walk along an elevated walkway that overlooks lush jungle foliage and stop for a picnic lunch at a scenic spot along the way.

Northern Thai Tuk Tuk Trails

Get ready for a chauffeur-driven or self-drive tuk tuk adventure in the remote hills of northern Thailand, exploring rural life and local temples. Hop aboard your tuk tuk which has been customized to make the most of Chiang Mai's rolling hills and set off on a journey to discover scenic mountain trails, farming villages, fields and rice terraces.





PARK HYATT BANGKOK Bangkok, Thailand

Park Hyatt Bangkok offers an urban retreat for discerning, cultured world travelers and the cosmopolitan creatives who call Bangkok home. Curating a tranquil oasis in the heart of the city, the hotel distinguishes itself through its personalized approach to wellness, exquisite dining experiences and direct access to Central Embassy, a world-class retail hub.

Why we love it: Nestled within an iconic space, the hotel celebrates the arts both inside and out. Aside from its cutting-edge architecture, it also boasts an award-winning infinity pool and whirlpool, recognized as **Thailand's No. 1 Best Pool** by Travel + Leisure in 2023.

EXCLUSIVE OFFER

AMANDARI Bali, Indonesia

Situated in the village of Kedewatan, Amandari is deeply connected with the traditional culture and nature of its Ayung River valley surroundings. Ideal for wellness retreats, the property overlooks a tranquil lily pond with a swimming pool that mimics the rice paddies. It offers a range of therapeutic spa treatments as well as specialty Indonesian and Western dishes at its open-air restaurant.

Why we love it: Aside from embracing a holistic approach to wellness, Amandari also features a resident spiritual healer and therapies that use local healing ingredients. When you book with Akorn from now until the 19th of December 2024, enjoy the benefits of a longer stay with a complimentary night for every three nights booked.



HOTEL DES ARTS SAIGON – MGALLERY Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Located in the center of Ho Chi Minh City, Hotel Des Arts Saigon – MGallery showcases the best of colonial Vietnamese charm combined with stylish contemporary touches in a delightful setting. The property has recently been honored in two prestigious categories by the Travel + Leisure Luxury Awards Asia Pacific 2024: **Top 10 City Hotels** and **Top 10 Hotel Pools** in Vietnam.

Why we love it: Aside from its strategic location just a few minutes' walk from well-known tourist spots, the multi-awarded property pays homage to the region's artistry with its charming Indochina design and mini art gallery. Its renowned bar is also considered one of Saigon's iconic rooftop venues.



OVER 30 YEARS
OF LUXURY TRAVEL EXPERTISE IN
SOUTHEAST ASIA



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