

# Asian Golf Explorer

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OCTOBER 2007 / NUMBER 4

亞洲高爾夫人

INTERVIEW  
**JOHN SOLHEIM**  
專訪 PING CEO  
  
OLD FAVOURITE  
**JIULONG HILLS**

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# Golfing in China Monthly Highlight

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## Lijiang(Jade Dragon& Ancient City Golf Club)Golf Package

### 麗江高球行

4 days 3 nights: HK\$4,980 up (ZH)  
HK\$5,180 (KA)

HK or Shenzhen ⇨ Lijiang roundtrip  
Ticket by KA / ZH,

3 nights stay at 5 stars Treasure  
Harbour Hotel (Twin share)

Daily Breakfast

Jade Dragon 玉龍雪山

18 holes green fee, caddie, shared cart,  
locker fee.

Ancient City 古城, 18 holes green fee,  
Caddie, shared cart, locker fee.

3 x half day local tour admission fee,  
transport and guide fee.

Airport ⇨ Hotel ⇨ Club Transfer



## Huang Shan Golf Package

### 黃山高球行

4 day 3 nights: HK\$ 3,690

HK ⇨ Huangshan roundtrip  
Ticket by UO

3 nights 5 stars Club Resort New  
Wing Room(Twin share)

Daily Breakfast,

2x18 holes green fee, locker,  
share caddie & Cart

Airport ⇨ Club Transfer



## Guilin Merryland Golf Resort Package

### 桂林樂滿地高球行

3 days 2 nights: HK\$3,050

HK ⇨ Guilin roundtrip Ticket by  
KA

2 nights at 5 stars Golf Resort  
(Twin Share)

Daily breakfast

2 Lunches at club

2 days UNLIMITED green fee

Airport ⇨ Club Transfer



## KunMing Special City Golf Package

### 昆明春城高球行

3 day 2 nights: HK\$ 4,790 (KA)  
HK\$ 4,590 (HX)

HK ⇨ Kunming roundtrip Ticket

2 night club hotel or resort (Share twin)

Daily Breakfast, 1 set dinner

2 x 18 holes green fee, caddie, shared  
buggy

Airport ⇨ Club Transfer



## Shanghai Lake Malaren Golf Resort Package

### 上海美蘭湖高球行

3 days 2 nights: HK\$ 3,480

HK⇨ Shanghai roundtrip Ticket  
by FM

2 nights at 5 stars Club Resort  
(Twin Share)

Daily breakfast

2x18 holes green fee, caddie  
shared Cart, locker

Airport ⇨ Club Transfer



## Hainan Haikou Deluxe Golf Package

### 海口豪華高球行

3 day 2 nights: HK\$ 2,850

HK ⇨ Haikou roundtrip Ticket by HX

2 nights at 5 stars beachside New State  
Hotel (Twin share)

Daily Breakfast,

West Cost GC 西海岸

18 holes green fee, Caddie, locker

Meishi Mayflower GC 美視

18 holes green Fee, Caddie, locker

Airport ⇨ Hotel ⇨ Club Transfer



## Hainan Sanya Golf Package

### 三亞高球行

3 day 2 nights: HK\$2,680 起

HK ⇨ Sanya roundtrip Ticket by KA

2 nights hotel of your choice (Twin  
share)

Daily breakfast (Selected hotel only)

Yalong Bay GC 亞龍灣

18 holes green fee

Sun Valley GC 紅峽谷

18 holes green fee

Airport ⇨ Hotel ⇨ Club Transfer



## Qingdao Golf Package

### 青島旭寶高球行

4 days 3 nights: HK\$ 4,180

HK ⇨ Qingdao roundtrip Ticket  
by KA

3 nights accommodation at Tiger  
Beach Golf Club (Twin share)

Daily breakfast

2 x 18 holes weekday green fee,  
caddie

Airport ⇨ Club Transfer



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or call (852)2180 2963, (86)0755 8300 4192**

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## Asian Golf Explorer

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# Goose isn't Cooked

The relief was palpable. Just when we thought that the organizers of the UBS Hong Kong Open were going to struggle to find any big names to tee it up at Fanling next month, they manage to pull off something of a coup by confirming that Mike Weir, Retief Goosen, Trevor Immelman and K.J. Choi will all be heading over. Phew!

The cause of our concern was the fact that the UBS Hong Kong Open, which will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2008, immediately follows the Barclays Singapore Open and the HSBC Champions tournament up in Shanghai. These two events, which have a combined prize purse of a whopping US\$9 million, have managed to attract a slew of stars - Phil Mickelson, Ernie Els and Angel Cabrera, among others, will be playing in both tournaments - and the general feeling was that Hong Kong, with prize money totalling a comparatively paltry US\$2 million, might lose out in the annual scramble for household names. Of course we're not naïve enough to think that the likes of Weir and Goosen have been persuaded to make the trip to Hong Kong just to play for the prize money or for reasons associated with the tournament's rich heritage; hefty appearance fees is the prime motivating factor for showing up. But every event in Asia - any many in Europe for that matter - pays out for its stars, and while we don't agree with the practice, we understand why they do it. After all, no US-based player inside the world's top fifty is going to want to fly

halfway around the world without a little financial incentive. And the sponsors know that the crowds are hardly going to flock to watch a bunch of lowly ranked players that nobody has ever heard of. So kudos to the organizers - they've managed to peak people's interest in an event that could easily have become just another stop on the European professional circuit.

I, for one, am delighted that Goosen is returning. While Weir will doubtless grab most of the attention thanks to his magnificent victory over Tiger Woods in the singles of the Presidents Cup last month, Goosen has a lot to prove to his Hong Kong fans. As you might remember, the South African's debut last year was hardly stellar: a two day total of 1-over-par, thanks largely to miserable performance on the tricky greens at the Hong Kong Golf Club, resulted in a missed cut and more than a few raised eyebrows in the sponsor's marquee. Of course, Goosen has too much class for that to happen again - or does he? We'll find out soon enough. See you at Fanling!



Alex Jenkins  
Editor



# Golfing in Guangdong Monthly Highlight

**GOLF007**  
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## Nansha Golf Club

南沙高爾夫球會

### Daytrip

Weekday HK\$850 / Weekend HK\$1,230  
18 holes green fee, caddie, locker, lunch,  
Pier ⇄ Club Transfer,  
HK ⇄ Nansha ferry ticket

### 2 Days:

Weekday HK\$1,390 / Weekday + Weekend  
HK\$1,690 / Weekend HK\$1,990  
2 x 18 holes green fee, caddie, locker,  
breakfast, Club Resort (Twin share),  
Pier ⇄ Club Transfer,  
HK ⇄ Nansha ferry ticket



## Orient Golf Club, Macau

澳門(東方)高爾夫球會

Weekday HK\$870 / Weekend HK\$1,450  
18 holes green fee, caddie, shared cart,  
locker  
\* Lunch included on weekend



## Firestone Golf Club, Shenzhen

光明高爾夫球會

Weekday HK\$560 / Weekend HK\$920  
18 holes green fee, caddie, shared cart and  
locker  
\* Set lunch included on Tuesday &  
Wednesday



## Green Bay Golf Club, Shenzhen

碧海灣高爾夫俱樂部

Weekday HK\$700 / Weekend HK\$1,130  
18 holes green fee, caddie, locker fee  
\* Cart included on weekend.  
No single cart surcharge



## Yinli Foreign Investor Golf Club

銀利外商高爾夫球俱樂部

Weekday HK\$650 / Weekend HK\$1,080  
18 holes green fee, shared caddie & cart,  
locker, set lunch,  
Huanggang ⇄ Club Shuttle  
\* Complimentary breakfast served on  
Saturday & Sunday before 10:00



## Long Island Golf Club, Dongguan

東莞長安高爾夫球會

Weekdays 2 days special HK\$1,550  
2 x 18 holes green fee, shared caddie &  
cart, locker, breakfast, One set lunch, Club  
Resort (Twin share)  
\* HK ⇄ Club shuttle is available at  
HK\$143 per person



## Agile Golf Club, Zhongshan

中山長江高爾夫球會

Weekday HK\$1,035 /  
Weekend HK\$1,930  
18 holes green fee, caddie, Shared cart,  
HK ⇄ Zhongshan ferry ticket



## Lotus Hill Golf Club

蓮花山高爾夫球會

Daytrip  
Weekday HK\$840 / Weekend HK\$1,260  
18 holes green fee, caddie, locker, lunch,  
Pier ⇄ Club Transfer, HK ⇄ Lotus Hill  
ferry ticket

### 2 Days

Weekday HK\$1,540 /  
Weekday + Weekend HK\$1,960 /  
Weekend HK\$2,380  
2 x 18 holes green fee, caddie, locker,  
breakfast, lunch, Club Resort (Twin  
share), Pier ⇄ Club Transfer,  
HK ⇄ Lotus Hill ferry ticket



## Orient Golf Club Zhuhai

珠海(東方)高爾夫球會

Weekday HK\$640(Tue) HK\$720 /  
Weekend HK\$1,050  
18 holes green fee, caddie, locker,  
HK ⇄ Zhuhai ferry ticket  
\* Set lunch included on Tuesday,  
Pier ⇄ Club roundtrip Shuttle  
available at HK\$55 per person.



## Golden Gulf Golf Club Zhuhai

金灣高爾夫俱樂部

Weekday HK\$790(Mon) HK\$890 /  
Weekend HK\$1,290  
18 holes green fee, caddie, Shared cart,  
free range warm up, Pier ⇄ Club Shuttle,  
HK ⇄ Zhuhai ferry ticket



## Lakewood Golf Club Zhuhai

翠湖高爾夫球會

Weekday HK\$780 / Weekend HK\$1,210  
18 holes green fee, caddie, lunch,  
HK ⇄ Zhuhai ferry ticket  
\* Pier ⇄ Club roundtrip Shuttle  
available at HK\$55 per person.



## Palm Island Golf Resort, Huizhou

棕櫚島高爾夫球會

Weekday HK\$930 / Weekend Special  
Offer  
18 holes green fee, caddie, shared cart,  
locker, HK ⇄ Club Shuttle



## Lake Front Golf Resort, Huizhou

湖景高爾夫渡假村

Weekend HK\$820  
18 holes green fee, shared caddie & cart,  
locker, Huanggang ⇄ Club Shuttle



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# Jiulong Hills

## An Old Favourite

Asian  
EXPLORER



Previously known as Sanjiu 999, Jiulong Hills, located only ten minutes from the mammoth Mission Hills complex in Guanlan, is a definite candidate for the most underrated course in the Pearl River Delta.

# Jiulong Hills Golf Explorer

Hidden gem: an overused phrase, perhaps, but Jiulong fits the bill.



## NEED TO KNOW

### SHENZHEN JIULONG HILLS GOLF CLUB

999 Green Base, Fumin Village,  
Guanlan, Shenzhen.

Tel: +86 (0)755 2798 6222

Website: [www.jlsgolf.net](http://www.jlsgolf.net)

Par: 72.

Yardage: 6,939 / 6,404 / 6,075 / 5,418 /  
4,763

Private club; visitors welcome.

Carts and caddies are mandatory.

### GETTING THERE

Huanggang Border – Club: Taxi –  
35mins; approx RMB150.

Lowu Border – Club: Taxi – 45mins;  
approx RMB200.

### COSTS

Weekday: HK\$570. Weekend/Public

Holiday: HK\$980.

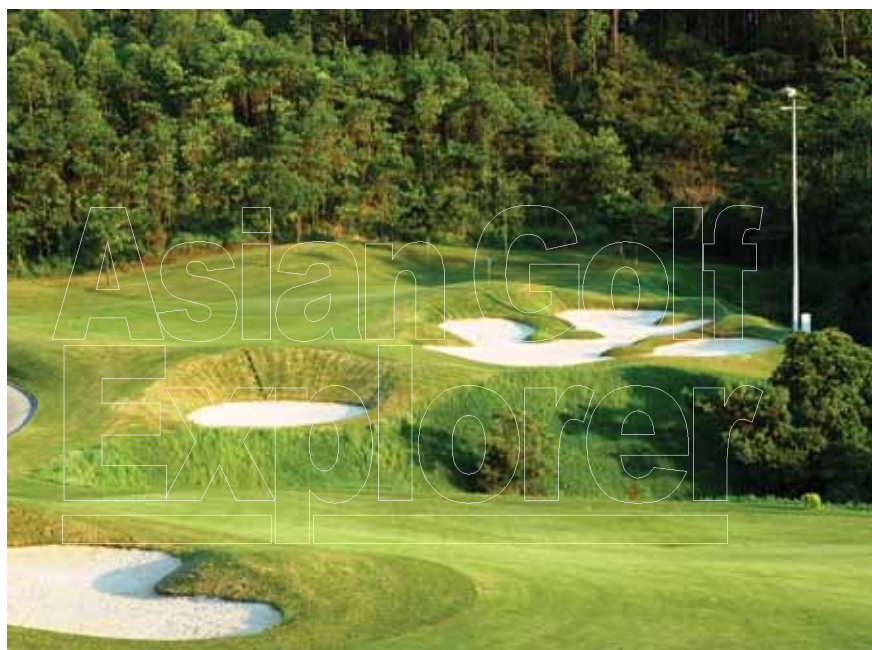
Includes green fee, caddie + cart  
(shared) fee.

Night golf surcharge: HK\$180 for 9  
holes.

### TO BOOK CALL +852 2187 3146

Opened for play in 2000, Jiulong Hills was first used by the People's Liberation Army as a recreational retreat for their highest-ranking officials. But since the Government banned the military from owning private enterprises three years ago, the club is now open to all fee-paying visitors. With only 18 holes and a small basic clubhouse, the facilities here might not compare with the 'superclubs' of the region, but as far as the layout is concerned it's right up there with the best of them.

Jiulong Hills is definitely one of those tracks that doesn't need length to make it challenging. Measuring a shade over 6,000 yards from the blue tees – 6,400 from the gold and 6,939 from the tips – the course uses natural sweeping terrain to great effect, and the result is an



undulating, tight layout that features a beautiful array of mature trees and jungle-like borders. Water also has a significant role here; the wet stuff comes into play on the majority of holes making this a particularly tough test for the wayward. Furthermore, a number of these require long carries off the tee, so those golfers who are new to the game will benefit considerably by a drop down to the friendlier white tees.

There's no doubt that Jiulong Hills is home to some beautiful holes. One the front nine the spectacular par-five second and the treacherous par-four eighth immediately spring to mind, but the best of the bunch are saved for the final stretch of holes. Take the sixteenth, for example. This charming short par-four is one of those deliciously mischievous holes that really encourage you to throw caution to the wind and have a crack with the longest club in your bag. If you can drive the ball 250-yards then it's definitely on, but the entrance of the green is narrow, and with water surrounding the putting surface on three sides, the percentage

play is to lay up with a long iron and wedge it on. Find the fairway with the tee shot and it should be a par at worst. Take on the green with the driver and God help you!

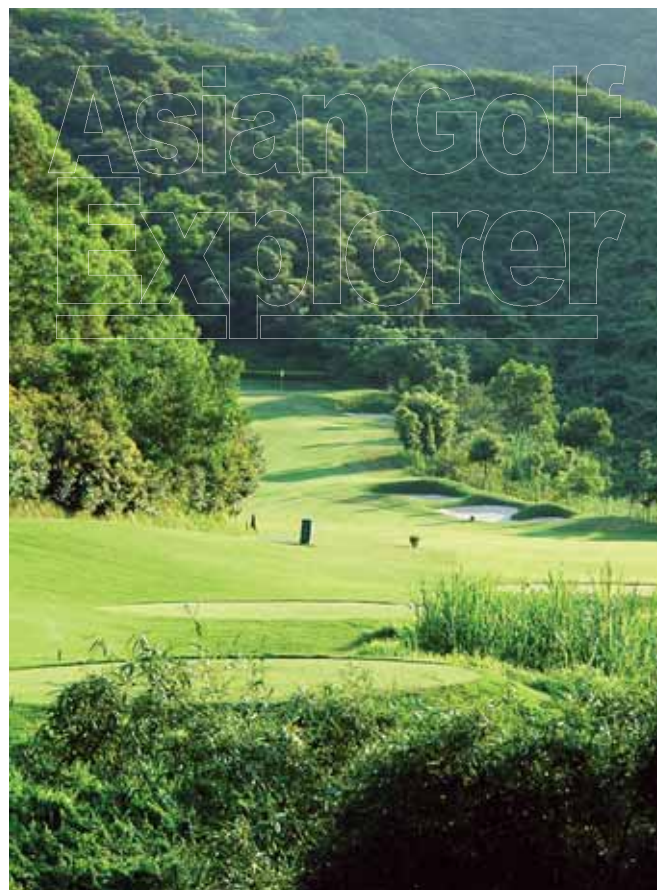
Unlike the vast majority of courses in Guangdong, Jiulong Hills is the work of a local architect – the unheralded Wang Guan-lin – and not a 'big' name designer. But the quality of the layout here ranks among the region's finest, which just goes to show that golf course developers don't have to spend millions recruiting the likes of Nicklaus and Trent Jones Jnr, in order to produce a decent track.

Perhaps the only disappointing aspect of the course is the addition of lighting poles – to allow night golf – to the back nine. While these are not as ugly as some of the Triffid-like structures at some other places they do slightly tarnish the natural beauty of the place. The same can be said of a few electricity pylons that hove into view on occasion. But these are really quite minor gripes. Overall, this funky course has character by the bucket load and shouldn't be missed. **AGE**





Jolly Jiulong (clockwise from top): a typically tough hole; elevation change throughout; there's a definite rustic quality to the place; the diminutive clubhouse.





# Casino Buys Orient Macau Golf Club

Future seems unclear; speculation rife.

Who says you can't make any money out of owning golf courses in Greater China? Harrah's Entertainment, the world's largest casino operator by revenue, announced last month that its subsidiary, Harrah's Operating Company, Inc., has acquired Macau's Orient Golf Club for an undisclosed sum. Analysts speculated that the fee could be as high as US\$3 billion, but this was described as being "nowhere near" the mark by Michael Chen, Harrah's president of the Asia-Pacific region. Whatever the final figure is, however, it's safe to say that Pen Holdings, the previous owners, have done rather well out of the deal.

So, what's next? Chen has said that Harrah's plan to improve the course and that it will likely be part of the casino's Total Rewards system in which it offers complimentary services in exchange for betting action of the casino floor. But here's the thing: Harrah's doesn't have a license to operate a gambling facility in Macau – and what's more, the purchase of the course doesn't give it the right to develop a casino. However, with new gambling licenses expected to be issued in 2009, industry insiders believe that the Las Vegas-based

company's belated presence in the former Portuguese colony is a sign that they will turn the course into a casino and hotel complex at the earliest opportunity.

"Harrah's has struggled to get a foothold in Macau," said one analyst. "Their competitors – the likes of Sands and Wynn – have invested massively in Macau and have a huge presence. They have to play catch up. The purchase of the golf course is a clear sign that they will try and get in on the gambling act as soon as possible."

You can see the attraction. The course occupies 175 acres of the Cotai Strip and is situated right next to the newly-opened Venetian. Even if they don't get the right to develop a casino and resort complex, Harrah's are sure to make a tidy sum by holding onto the property and selling it at a later date.

The long term future of Orient Macau appears unclear, but there's no reason why you shouldn't pick up the clubs and head off for a quick eighteen right now. Package rates start at HK\$870 during the week and HK\$1,450 on weekends and public holidays. Go get it while you still can. **Call +852 2187 3146 for bookings.**

Prime real estate: but how long will it remain a golf course?







### NEW OPENING

Hong Kong's newest pro shop can be found at Asia Golf Club in Cheung Sha Wan. Stocked full of the latest equipment and apparel, the **Skyline** outlet also comprises a handy club fitting and repair workshop. Call 2983-1003 or visit [www.skylinegolf.com.hk](http://www.skylinegolf.com.hk).

### UBS HONG KONG OPEN – Volunteers Wanted

Volunteer scorers and marshals are once again being sought for the UBS Hong Kong Open from 15-18 November. If you fancy helping out, contact Dolla Chui at the Hong Kong Golf Association on 2504-8653 or by email at [dolla.chui@hkga.com](mailto:dolla.chui@hkga.com). Those who volunteer for two days or more will be invited to participate in January's Volunteer Golf Day at Fanling, which includes a complimentary round and lunch.

### DEMO DAYS

Staying at Asia Golf Club, the driving range is definitely the place to go if you want to try out the latest gear from a selection of the world's favourite brands. Call 2361-3972 or visit [www.asiagolf.hk](http://www.asiagolf.hk) for more details.

### Schedule

#### OCTOBER

Sat 13:	Titleist	1300 – 1800
Sun 14:	Cobra	1300 – 1800
Sat 21 – Sun 22:	MacGregor	1400 – 1800
Fri 26:	Mizuno	1800 – 2100
Sat 27 – Sun 28	Ping	1400 – 1800

#### NOVEMBER

Sat 3 – Sun 4:	Mizuno	1300 – 1800
Sat 10 – Sun 11:	MacGregor	1400 – 1800
Sat 17:	Titleist	1300 – 1800
Sun 18:	Cobra	1300 – 1800
Sat 24 – Sun 25:	Ping	1400 – 1800

## Pine Valley Sports & Country Club 珠海萬盛鄉村俱樂部



### GOLF PACKAGES

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Mon & Thu **HK\$780**  
Tue, Wed, Fri **HK\$860**  
Sat, Sun, Public Holidays **HK\$1,220**  
18 Holes green fee,  
shared caddie & cart, locker,  
HK <=> Zhuhai ferry ticket

#### Two Days Package

Weekdays **HK\$1,590**  
Fri + Sat **HK\$2,020**  
Sun + Mon **HK\$1,930**  
Weekends **HK\$2,390**  
2 x 18 Holes green fee,  
shared caddie & cart, locker,  
Club Resort (Share twin),  
Pier transfer  
HK <=> Zhuhai ferry ticket

Enquiry Hotline :

**2187 3146**



Getting there : Ferry to Zhuhai (Jiuzhou) Port - frequent sailings  
from both Hong Kong/Macau Ferry  
Terminal in Sheung Wan and China Hong Kong City Ferry Terminal in  
Tsim Sha Tsui - Journey Time: 1hr10mins.  
Club shuttle bus from Zhuhai Pier to Club takes approximately 50mins



## NINE EAGLES OPENS WITH A BANG

### Airport Course Wows Golfers



Drummers were bashing, Michael Wong was crooning, alcohol-fuelled golfing types were dancing a conga, pretty young maidens were...well, they were standing around looking pretty. The grand opening of SkyCity Nine Eagles Golf Course will live long in the memory, and we were there to snap away and enjoy the free booze.

In all seriousness, the official unveiling of Nine Eagles – the fabulous little track out at Chek Lap Kok – was a landmark occasion, and the Airport Authority and King Power Group (and Managing Director Antares Cheng in particular) should be congratulated. They have created a gem of a layout – one that we at AGE hope will not only encourage us all to play more golf, but one which will also play a key role in the future development of the game in the SAR. Three cheers to them.

For more information about Nine Eagles please refer to the September issue of AGE, or call 3760-6688 and visit [www.nine-eagles.com](http://www.nine-eagles.com).

**Sky High (clockwise from top):**  
Three cheers to them; Miriam Yeung did her bit; a hefty cheque for charity; MD Antares Cheng – drummer extraordinaire.







## LAM'S ALL GROWN UP

**Super-teen Steven Wins Macau Amateur Open**

14-year-old Steven Lam Tsz-fung came of age at the Macau Amateur Open Championship last month, winning his first men's title with a gutsy display at the Macau Golf & Country Club. Lam's two-day total of 145 (3-over-par) proved too good for perennial Macau favourite Cliff Chan So-ping who finished four strokes behind. Alexi Van Damme claimed third place, a further stroke adrift.

"I'm really happy," said Lam, who fired a level par round of 71 on the final day to topple overnight leader Chan. "To have finally won a men's event is a great feeling. It really means a lot."

Lam had ended the first round with a lot of catching up to do after Macau member Chan, whose knowledge of his home course is second to none, rocketed into the early lead with a steady 71. But after Chan made a surprisingly poor start to his final round, the Hong Kong *wunderkind* was steadiness personified, racking up par after par to move into sole possession of first place. A couple of clutch birdies around the turn increased his lead and after yet more solid golf, he was able to cruise to victory.

"My putting was really good," beamed Lam, in what was probably the understatement of the week. Macau's notoriously tricky greens befuddled the majority of the 120-strong field throughout the course of the event, but the St Joseph's College student wasn't unduly worried, holing a string of 5-10 footers over the two days.

Lam will now turn his attention to the UBS Hong Kong Open qualifying tournament at Fanling on 8-9 October. At last year's qualifier, the scratch handicapper had a ten-foot putt to make a playoff for one of four coveted berths at the European Tour event, but watched in horror as his effort grazed the edge of the cup and failed to drop. He thinks he'll have a better chance this year however.

"I think I'm a better player than twelve months ago. I've grown a bit and can hit the ball further than before. I really hope to do well – to play in the Hong Kong Open would be a dream."

### Results

1	Steven Lam	145 (74+71)
2	Cliff Chan	149 (71+78)
3	Alexi Van Damme	150 (78+72)
4	Joe Pethes	152 (78+74)
5	Mark Leich	153 (77+76)
6=	Alex Jenkins	154 (76+78)
	Doug Williams	154 (76+78)
	Liu Meng-yang	154 (78+76)
	Huang Wen-yi	154 (81+73)
10	Max Wong	155 (76+79)
11=	Yip Man	156 (78+78)
	Chan Chun-wah	156 (80+76)
13=	Park Byung-wook	158 (75+83)
	Choi Kan-shan	158 (77+81)
15=	Terry Leung	159 (81+78)
	Medel Taipan	159 (84+75)

**Stellar Steven:**  
Lam on his way  
to victory.

*Photo by  
Gareth Jones.*



# THAI TEE TIME: Golfing Phuket

Asian  
EXPLORE

Classic Canyon: it doesn't get much better than a round at Blue Canyon.



# n Golf orer

Immortalized in the 1974 James Bond flick *The Man with the Golden Gun*, Phuket has long attracted tourists with its winter sun, palm-fringed beaches, crystal-blue waters and first-class hotels and resorts. Arguably its greatest asset, however, is its superb golf courses. There are five golf clubs dotted around this most relaxing of islands, and all are well-worth playing. The most famous of these is the awe-inspiring Blue Canyon Country Club, which has hosted the Johnnie Walker Classic on three occasions; most memorably in 1998 when a youthful Tiger Woods defeated Ernie Els in a thrilling sudden death playoff.



## WHERE TO PLAY

### Blue Canyon Country Club

Stunning Blue Canyon is home to two first-class courses: the Canyon, which has hosted numerous professional events over the years, and the slightly more forgiving and newer Lakes Course. Occupying an incredibly picturesque part of the island, the club's reputation is second to none: regardless of whichever golf magazine you subscribe, they all consider Blue Canyon to be in the top echelons of Asian golf – and we're not disagreeing. Using the naturally rolling terrain to its fullest, the Canyon Course

presents a definite test. Generally narrow landing areas bordered by beautiful mature trees penalize wayward hitters, while the water-laced par threes are a brilliant collection of short holes, particularly the fourteenth, which is surely one of the most exciting one-shotters in golf. The Lakes Course, might be considered the junior course, but it still offers a decent challenge with water coming into play on seventeen of its eighteen holes. Together these two courses solidify Blue Canyon's position as one of the most memorable clubs in the tropics.

*Thalang, Phuket.*

*Canyon Course Par: 72. Yardage: 7,179.*

*Lakes Course Par: 72. Yardage: 7,129.*

*Architect: Yoshikazu Kato.*

### Loch Palm Golf Club

Following the 2007 opening of the New Course, Loch Palm is now home to thirty-six very good holes of golf. The Old Course winds its way around beautiful Crystal Lake and should be the choice for holiday golfers, because of its generous fairways. Surrounded by towering palms, the Old is also an exceptionally fun course to play; the variety of holes – from dogleg rights to dogleg lefts, straightaway holes, holes that play up and downhill – ensures that many visitors will return. The New Course, designed by Jon Morrow, is a less forgiving and more mountainous layout, surrounded on all sides by stunning rainforest.

*Khatu, Phuket.*

*Old Course Par: 72. Yardage: 6,555.*

*Architect: Dr Sukitti Klangvisai.*

*New Course Par: 72. Yardage: 6,956.*

*Architect: Jon Morrow.*

### Mission Hills Resort & Spa

Wonderfully sited on the coast overlooking the clear blue waters of the

Andaman Sea, Mission Hills (yep! this is owned by the guys in Gualan, Shenzhen) has pretty much everything you could possibly want from a holiday golf club: a highly enjoyable and beautiful eighteen hole course, an amenity-packed clubhouse, fine accommodation and dining and immaculate service. Because of its proximity to the sea, the wind can blow quite strong here – strong enough to blow even well-struck drives into the vast sandy wastes that border many of the holes. Water, in the form of scenic lakes and ponds, also comes into play. Although it's a relatively new development, the course has settled in very well. A definite must-play.

*Amphur Talang.*

*Par: 72. Yardage: 6,808.*

*Architect: Nicklaus Design.*

### Laguna Phuket Golf Club

Situated amid the upscale hotels and resorts of Laguna, just twenty minutes from the airport, Laguna Phuket Golf Club is an exceptionally well landscaped course that, although flat, manages to exude interest and beauty throughout its eighteen holes. Flanked by mature trees and punctuated by lakes and waterfalls, Laguna's fairways are deliberately generous – this is resort golf at its best and most friendly. The course features generally small greens that, if found in regulation, could lead to a few birdie chances. Like Phuket's other courses, Laguna can almost always be found in great shape. Although the clubhouse is beginning to show its age, the veranda is the great place to relax and unwind after your round.

*Thalang, Phuket.*

*Par: 72. Yardage: 6,654.*

*Architect: Max Wexler & David Abell*

## Climate

November through March is the best time of year to visit Phuket, as daily highs hover in the mid-to-high twenties and the humidity is at its most bearable. To escape the peak season crowds, however, a trip during the summer months (June, July and August) is worth consideration. It's hot, of course, with the occasional heavy shower, but there's still plenty of sunshine. A big plus is that rates for hotels and golf come down during this time.

## Cost

### Blue Canyon Country Club

3D2N HKD4,680

Thai Oriental HongKong <> Phuket round trip ticket

2 nights Blue Canyon Country Club Resort

Golfers Spa Lodge (Share twin)

2 round green fee

Daily breakfast & evening cocktails at

Executive Lounge

Free use of swimming pool, Jacuzzi, Sauna,

Steam bath

Airport transfer

TIC levy

### Mission Hills Golf Resort & Spa

3D2N HKD4,460

Thai Oriental HongKong <> Phuket round trip ticket

2 nights Mission Hills Phuket Golf View

Deluxe Room (Share twin)

2 round green fee, golf cart (share twin)

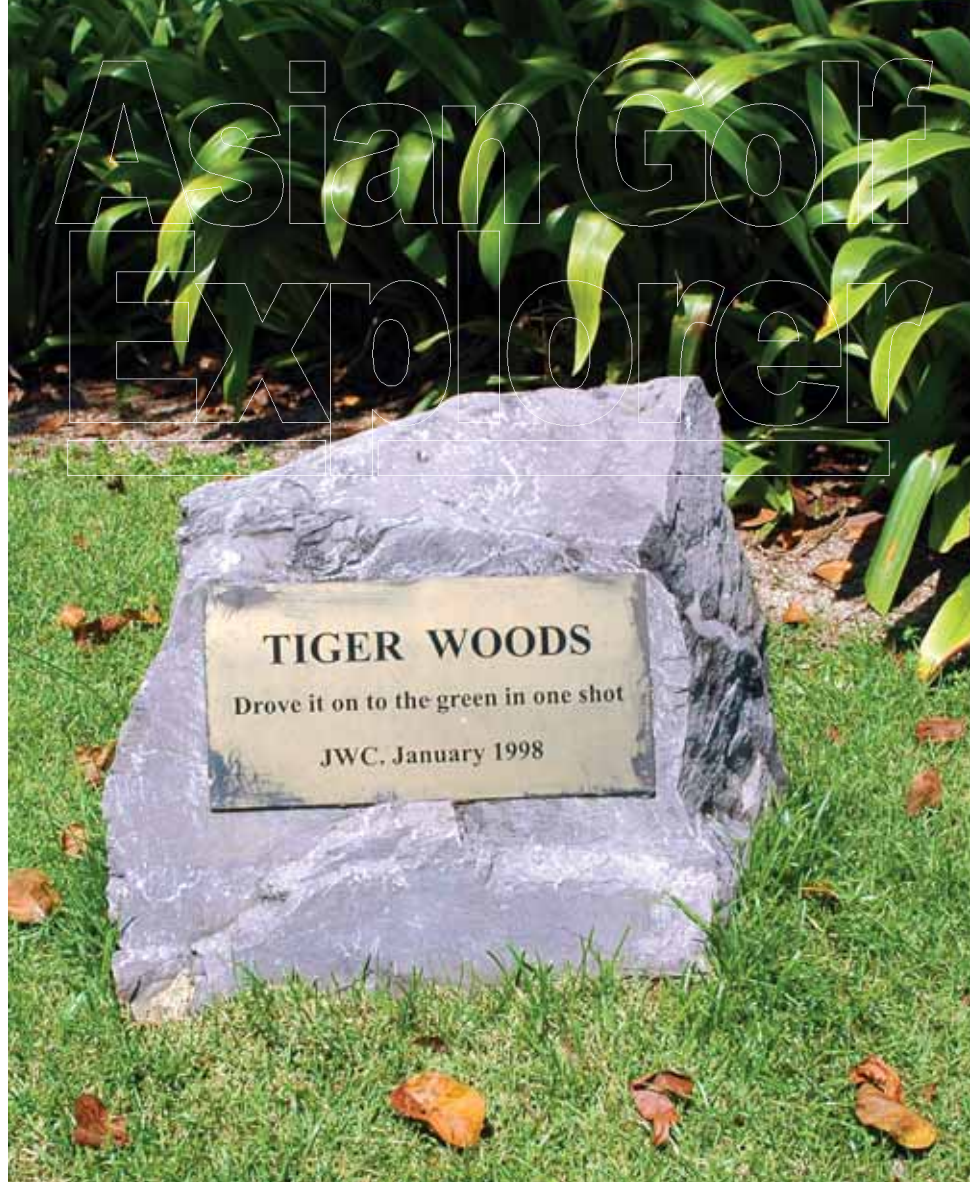
Daily breakfast

Free use of swimming pool, Jacuzzi

Airport transfer

TIC levy





Golfers' Paradise (clockwise from top left): finishing off at Blue Canyon's Canyon Course; you'll have a job replicating Tiger's efforts at the 390-yard fourteenth; attractive landscaping at Laguna Phuket; a warm welcome awaits at the Mission Hills clubhouse; charming Loch Palm is probably the island's most underestimated layout.







## WHERE TO STAY

### BLUE CANYON COUNTRY CLUB LODGE

Following a recent upgrade, Blue Canyon's Lodge is a good choice for those who want to stay within pitching wedge distance of their two fine courses. Other facilities available onsite include an award winning spa, swimming pool and two restaurants.

*Talang, Phuket.*



Off the course (clockwise from top left): Upscale accommodations at Mission Hills Phuket; the club's airy lobby.

### MISSION HILLS GOLF RESORT & SPA

Seventy-two (an appropriate number) exquisitely-decorated rooms and suites and a bevy of other fine amenities, including a top-notch spa and swimming pool make Mission Hills the complete resort.

*Amphur Talang.*

### TRISARA

If you'd prefer to stay close to the beach in a non-golf environment, this stylish resort overlooks the sea and is an ideal choice for couples who want to be within easy reach of the island's courses. Twenty-four of the resort's thirty-three beautiful villas have their own infinity pools. Expensive, but worth the splurge.

*Cherngtalay, Talang. **AGE***





amazing  
THAILAND



# TAT Koh Samui Golf Fantasy

(An official Promotion Event by Tourism Authority of Thailand)

Golf Course Photo By : [www.roylee.com](http://www.roylee.com)



Date : November 2 - 5, 2007

Deadline : October 24, 2007

Golf Venue : Santiburi Samui Country Club

Entry Fee : **HK\$4,988**

(fee includes 2 rounds of golf with caddie & buggy, round trip economy class air ticket, hotel accommodation with daily breakfast, welcome dinner & all land transfer)

For enquiry and booking, please call : Golf 007 at (852) 2180 2963

Swire Travel Limited at (852) 3151 8855

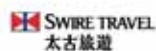
Organizer :



Official Airline :



Official Travel Agency :



Travel Licence No. 350001

Official Magazine :



Official Hotel :



Golf Course :





泰國旅遊局在這些年裡致力推廣泰國不同的高爾夫勝地，大部份高球愛好者相信都走遍泰國的南北西東，清邁、布吉、華欣及芭提雅這些地方都瞭如指掌，亦都享受不同的高爾夫假期。至於蘇梅島這個既熟悉卻又頗陌生的地方，隨著曼谷航空在年前開展直航後，由香港往蘇梅祇需約三小時，相比從前要在曼谷轉機，既省時又合乎經濟原則，要體驗這無污染的泰國島嶼，更加方便。

蘇梅島從前祇是泰國寧靜的小島，但她有著令人神往的沙灘圍繞著整個島上，由於椰樹滿佈，把這小島勾畫出一幅美麗的圖畫。經過泰國政府悉心培養這人間天堂，她已經成為泰國其中一個最熱門的旅遊點。

這裡除了陽光與海灘外，三年多前，第一個國際標準十八洞高爾夫球場 - Santiburi Samui Country Club 在高低起伏的椰樹林中建成。而且更已經舉辦過三屆亞洲職業高爾夫賽事 - 曼谷航空公開賽，使這球場得到各高球愛好者垂青。它的特

# TAT Koh Samui Golf Fantasy

## 泰國蘇梅島高爾夫逍遙遊 二〇〇七年十一月二至五日

色是擁有攝人的景色，想像著處身三百六十度角椰樹林及一望無際的椰樹在您腳下，使您不其然融入大自然中。不過，別讓美麗景色令您分心，原因是這球場設計的難度不會給您輕鬆自如地揮杆，據亞巡賽的職業球員所指，這是亞巡賽其中一個最難征服的球場，因為球道的起伏可相差一百公尺以上，要選擇適當的球杆倒是考驗您的技倆，而且每個球洞均設計獨特，趣味性極高。







## 四天行程一覽

### 第一天

- 中午在香港國際機場集合
- 乘搭曼谷航空航班 - PG804 於下午一時四十分起飛直航前往蘇梅島
- 預計下午三時五十五分抵達
- 乘坐專車前往酒店 - The Samudra Retreat 辦理入住手續
- 下午自由活動
- 晚上由泰國旅遊局在酒店的海灘吧宴請海鮮燒烤自助晚餐

### 第二天

- 自助早餐於酒店
- 餐後前往 Santiburi Samui Country Club 暢打十八洞高爾夫
- 自費午餐於球會
- 下午專車送返酒店後自由活動
- 晚上自由參加泰國旅遊局精選餐廳自費晚餐及夜遊 Chaweng Bay

### 第三天

- 自助早餐於酒店
- 餐後前往 Santiburi Samui Country Club 暢打十八洞高爾夫
- 自費午餐於球會
- 下午專車送返酒店後自由活動
- 晚上自由參加泰國旅遊局精選海鮮餐廳自費晚餐

### 第四天

- 自助早餐於酒店
- 餐後辦理退房手續
- 專車送往蘇梅島機場辦理登機手續
- 乘搭曼谷航空航班 - PG803 於上午八時二十分起飛返港
- 預計中午十二時四十分抵港

爲了推介這個高爾夫旅遊勝地，泰國旅遊局悉心安排一站 - 泰國蘇梅島高爾夫逍遙遊，好讓大家享受最舒適及愉快的高球假期。行程將於本年十一月二日(星期五)出發，乘搭曼谷航空航班，於下午一時四十分起飛，啓程前往蘇梅島，預計當地時間下午三時五十五分抵達蘇梅島機場。

蘇梅島機場是曼谷航空所擁有，由於這裡是渡假勝地，機場特別設計像一家具特色的渡假酒店，隨著旅客數量不斷增長，新建的機場大樓亦已啓用。最令人難忘的是接駁由飛機至大樓的卡車都畫上色彩繽紛的圖案，令人有置身遊樂場的感覺。因此，蘇梅島機場在年前獲得「亞洲最具特色機場」的美譽，確是實至名歸。

抵達蘇梅島後，隨即安排到酒店辦理入住手續，享受泰國旅遊局精心挑選的酒店。爲期四日三夜的假期，將住宿五星級 - The Samudra Retreat。它位於蘇梅島東北面，距離機場只需十五分鐘車程，往島上東面最熱鬧的 Chaweng Bay 也同樣只需十五分鐘。這家水療渡假酒店倚山而建，一直伸延至海灘。房間是泰式與時尚的設計，每個房間擁有私家露台，使您能悠閒地享受大自然環境。這次推廣之旅更安排住宿酒店的豪華套房，絕對是物超所值。

當晚泰國旅遊局，特別在下榻酒店的沙灘吧 - Beach Bar 安排沙灘海鮮燒烤自助晚餐，大家可一邊聽聽海浪，一邊享用美味晚餐。



行程安排第二及第三天的上午到 Santiburi Samui Country Club 暢打兩場十八洞高爾夫，可以讓大家在足夠時間享受陽光與海灘或來個舒緩疲累的水療按摩。而入住的酒店更爲支持這次高球之旅，提供低至五折的優惠給團友。晚上可乘坐酒店免費穿梭巴士到著名的 Chaweng Bay 體驗熱鬧的夜生活及品嚐不同的美食。

這悉心安排的高球假期，定必反應熱烈，故請盡速查詢及報名。詳情請致電 Golf 007 熱線：(852) 2180 2963 或太古旅遊熱線：(852) 3151 8855 **AGE**



**REGIONAL** Golf

# Asian Golf Explorer

Up in the clouds:  
dramatic elevation  
change is the  
predominant  
feature at  
Santiburi.



# The Beast

Photography by Roy Lee ([www.roylee.com](http://www.roylee.com))

There might only be one golf course on the resort island of Koh Samui, but it just happens to be among the most thrilling in Asia.



Palms and pars: the course was hewn out of a coconut plantation.

If you're looking at taking a golfing break in Thailand then you've probably considered three or four places. Perhaps you're toying with the idea of basing yourself in Bangkok and playing a select few tracks from the raft of clubs that are located within an hour's drive of the capital. If you want to mix beach life with a few rounds in the sun then Phuket would be an excellent choice. If you can't stand the heat, however, then you've doubtless thought of journeying to the northern city of Chiang Mai, where the temperate climate makes it an ideal des-

**"If courses were ranked solely on their ability to make golfers salivate, Santiburi would place first each and every time."**

tination for golf. Then there's always the rapidly developing resort area of Hua Hin, which has become something of a Mecca for tourists who come with clubs in tow. Fine golfing destinations, one and all.

But you won't find Thailand's most intriguing course in any of these places.

Instead, you must head to the resort island of Koh Samui where you'll find Santiburi Samui Country Club – an exhilarating mountainous layout, which has earned the rather terrifying moniker: The Beast.

Designed by Edward Thiele and the rising star of Thai golf course architec-



ture Pirapon Namatra, Santiburi opened for play in 2003 and quickly shot to prominence after hosting the 2005 Bangkok Airways Open, an Asian Tour event won by Taiwanese veteran Lu Wen-teh. Not that many people remembered Lu's victory that week, though. Rather, it was the course itself that dominated headlines in the aftermath of the tournament. "It's the hardest course I've ever walked," said Thongchai Jaidee, Thailand's foremost professional golfer, in reference to the mighty elevation changes at Santiburi. "It's a very fair golf course, but it's an incredibly demanding test as well. If you miss the fairway it's an automatic bogey or worse. Distance means nothing here; accuracy is crucial." Luckily, holiday golfers don't have to scale the course completely unaided. Unlike Thongchai, amateurs are allowed to motor our way around in golf carts with the club's undoubtedly petrified caddies hanging off the back.

But while it's an undoubtedly tough test of golf, Santiburi is also one of the most beautiful courses in the region. Plunging through coconut groves and raw jungle, Santiburi affords staggeringly picturesque views of the rest of the island and the surrounding turquoise depths of the Gulf of Thailand and the hedonistic island of Koh Phangan beyond. If courses were ranked solely on their ability to make golfers salivate, Santiburi would place first each and every time.

As you might have guessed, Santiburi is not kind on the rank amateur golfer. With its narrow, winding landing areas and startling terrain changes, a high degree of competency with the longer clubs is essential if a score approaching respectability is to be achieved. But it's also an incredibly fun course to play (a few of the holes descend 150 feet and more making those eagerly sought 300-yard drives a distinct possibility), and its large

welcoming greens offer some respite for those who might struggle off the tee. Make no mistake, this is a seriously challenging track, one that has the potential to crush more than a few egos. But if it's a character-packed course set in lush tropical surrounds that you're looking for, then you've come to the right place. Perhaps it's just as well Koh Samui doesn't have any other courses. Play Santiburi just once and you'll want to come back for a whole lot more. **AGE**

#### **SANTIBURI SAMUI COUNTRY CLUB**

12/15 Moo 4, Baan Donsai, Tambol Mae Nam, Amphur Koh Samui, Surat Thani, Thailand.

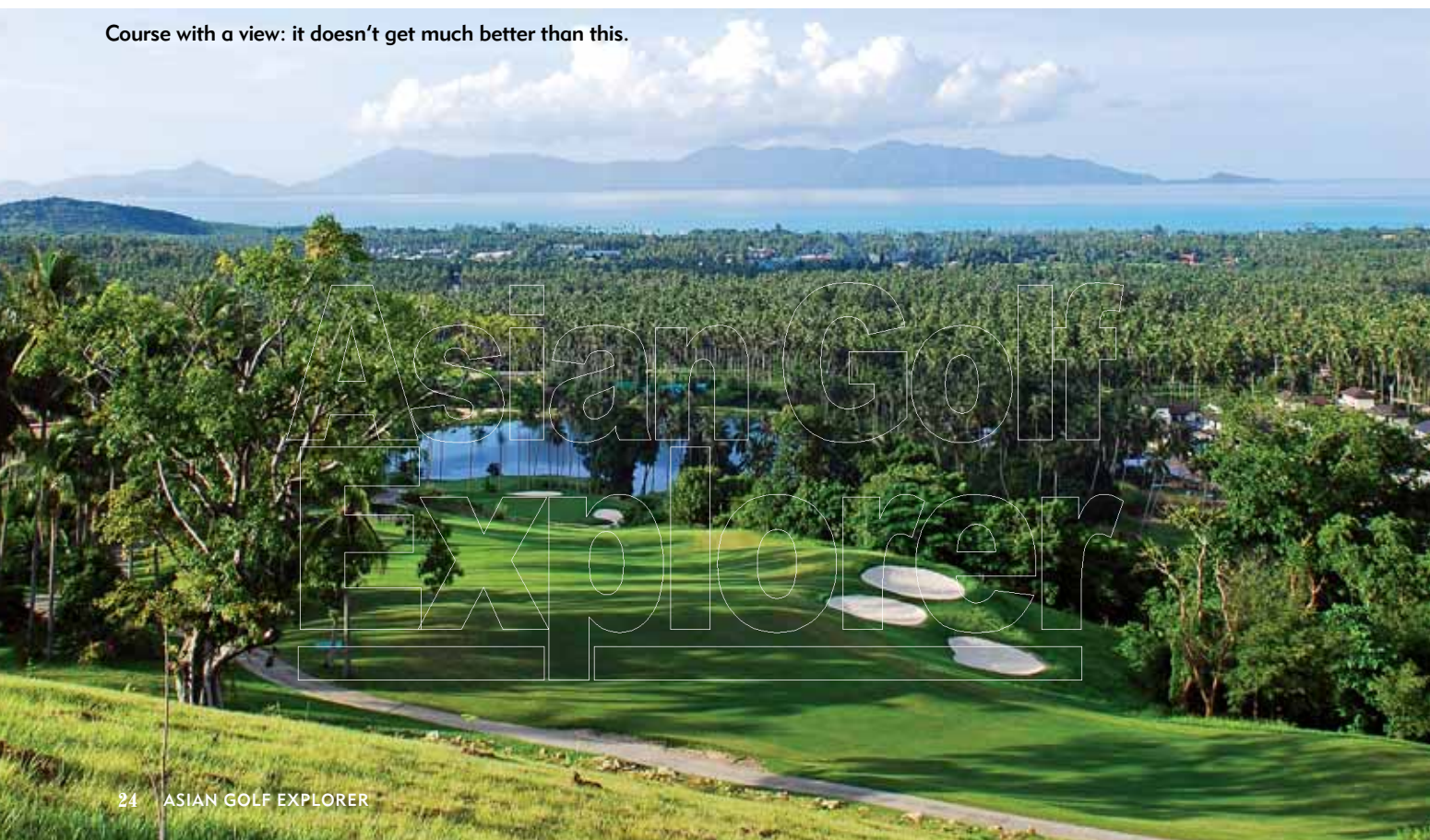
ARCHITECT: Edward Thiele and Pirapon Namatra, 2003.

YARDAGE: 6,930. PAR: 72.

CONTACT: [www.santiburi.com](http://www.santiburi.com).

BOOKINGS: Call +852 2187 3146.

Course with a view: it doesn't get much better than this.





# Golfing Asian Monthly Highlight

**GOLF 007**  
www.golf007.com



## **Chiang Mai (清邁) 4 Days 3 Nights** **HK\$3,620/RMB3,511 up**

HK ⇨ Chiang Mai roundtrip Ticket by TG  
3 Nights Novotel Hotel (Twin Share)  
Daily Breakfast  
Choice of 2 Rounds Weekdays Green Fee  
(Green Valley / Highland / Lamphun / Gassan Khuntan / Marina / Lake City Golf Course)  
Airport ⇨ Hotel Transfer

## **Boracay (長灘島) 4 Days 3 Nights** **HK\$4,620/RMB4,481 up**

Hong Kong ⇨ Manila roundtrip ticket by PR  
Manila ⇨ Caticlan roundtrip ticket by 3K  
Airport ⇨ Ferry Pier ⇨ Hotel Transfer  
3 nights hotel at Fairways Bluewater Golf & Resort Mulligan Style Room (Share Twin)  
Daily breakfast  
Fairways Bluewater Golf Country Club 18 Holes weekday green fee

## **Ho Chi Minh (胡志明) 4 Days 3 Nights** **HK\$3,980/RMB3,860 up**

HK ⇨ Ho Chi Minh roundtrip Ticket By VN  
3 Nights at Windsor Plaza Hotel (Twin Share)  
Daily Breakfast  
18 Holes Weekday Long Thanh Golf Club Green & Caddie Fee  
18 Holes Weekday Vietnam Country Golf Club Green & Caddie Fee  
Half Day City Tour & Entrance Fees  
English / Cantonese Speaking Tour Guide  
Land Transfer

## **Ria Bintan (民丹島) 3 Days 2 Nights** **HK\$3,390/RMB3,230 up**

HK ⇨ Singapore roundtrip Ticket by CX  
Singapore ⇨ Bintan Ferry Ticket  
2 Nights Nirwana Resort Garden View Room (Twin Share)  
Daily Breakfast  
Ria Bintan 2 x 18 Holes Green Fee, Caddie & Share Cart  
Bintan Pier ⇨ Resort ⇨ Golf Club Transfer

## **Kuala Lumpur (吉隆坡) Deluxe 4 Days 3 Nights** **HK\$3,750/RMB3,637 up**

HK ⇨ KL roundtrip Ticket by CX  
3 Nights Sunway Lagoon Resort (Twin Share)  
2 Rounds of Saujana Golf Club Weekday Green Fee  
Whole Day Pass for Sunway Lagoon Theme Park & Water Park

## **Hanoi (河內) 4 Days 3 Nights** **HK\$3,890/RMB3,773 up**

HK ⇨ Hanoi roundtrip Ticket by HX  
3 Nights Stay at Zephyr Hotel (Twin Share)  
Daily Breakfast  
King's Island 18 Holes Green Fee, Caddie Fee  
Chi Linh Star 18 Holes Green Fee, Caddie Fee  
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Half Day City Tour  
English / Cantonese Speaking Tour Guide  
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# MEMBERSHIP

We at *Asian Golf Explorer* like to think we know a good deal when we see one, which is why we've decided to bring to your attention the numerous outstanding advantages of joining **Thailand Elite** – a membership program designed to bring you the best and most prestigious lifestyle, travel and business benefits that the Land of Smiles has to offer.

If you're a frequent visitor to Thailand, or if you're considering setting up a business, living or even retiring in the Kingdom, then **Thailand Elite** is your passport to a wealth of privileges that will not only satisfy your travel and leisure demands, but which will also facilitate your business and settlement needs.

Operated by a company owned by the Tourism Authority of Thailand, and officially supported and endorsed by the Thai government, Thailand Elite is totally unique and 100% exclusive.



## DISCOVER THAILAND THE ELITE WAY

Club membership with a difference...

### THE BENEFITS

#### The Golfers' Choice

Let's start with the Thailand is famous players for its stunning class courses, and by



Elite member you'll have full access to the very best of these. Staying in Bangkok? Well how about a round at the famously exclusive **Alipne Golf Club**? Or perhaps you'd prefer to test your mettle on the luscious fairways of the classic **Navatane Golf Club**, host of the 1973 World Cup of Golf. Either way, Thailand Elite members receive complimentary greens fees at these and thirty other prestigious courses, including the likes of **Mission Hills Golf Resort and Spa** in Phuket, the Jack-Nicklaus-designed **Laem Chabang International Golf Club** in Chonburi and the incredibly scenic **Santiburi Samui Country Club**. With Thailand Elite you have the benefits of golf club membership without having to pay expensive joining fees.

golfing privileges. among seasoned ning array of world-being a Thailand



# Thailand Elite: It's more than just membership; it's a way of life.

## Travel & Leisure

The benefits of Thailand Elite membership begin the moment you arrive in Thailand. Rather than having to join lengthy immigration queues and wait for their luggage, you and your family can enjoy the relaxing surrounds of the Elite Welcome Lounge and take advantage of fast track immigration. What's more, luxury limousines are on hand to whisk you away to wherever you need to go – all on a complimentary basis. Heavily discounted airline tickets and preferential rates and room upgrades at some of the finest hotels in the world – including the **Oriental Bangkok**, the **Sukhothai Hotel** and the **Banyan Tree Phuket** – are just a few of the other privileges available to members.

## Health & Wellbeing

Thanks to its first rate hospitals and well-trained staff, Thailand is fast becoming one of the most popular healthcare destinations in the world, and by being a Thailand Elite member, you'll be entitled to a complimentary annual medical check up at one of eleven private hospitals across the land.

For those who are more interested in pampering themselves, you'll be pleased to know that Thailand Elite has that covered as well. With complimentary treatments available at over fifty of the most **highly regarded spas** in the country, Thailand Elite members are guaranteed the finest in rest and relaxation.

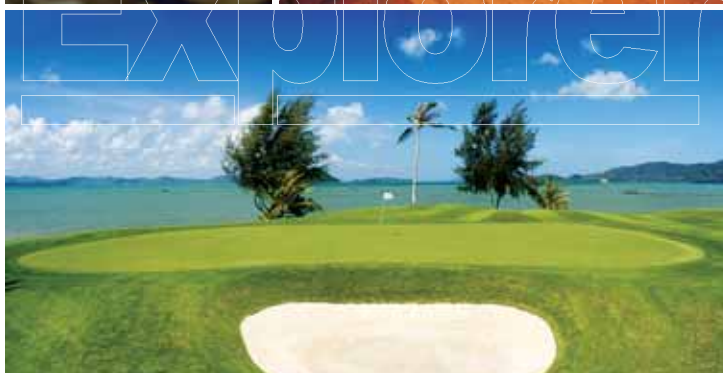
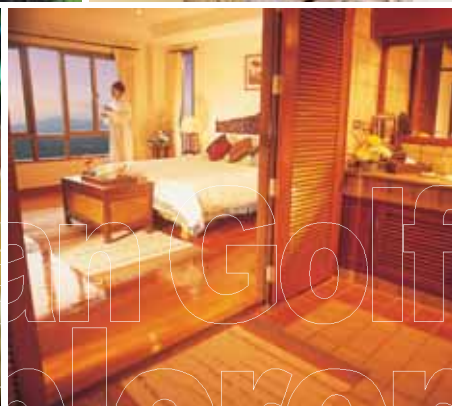
## Visa & Business Privileges

As a Thailand Elite member you can cut through that annoying red tape with ease. Members are entitled to a lifetime stay in Thailand. On successful application, members will receive a **5-year multiple entry tourist visa** which is automatically renewed at the end of each term. Plus, should any member wish to stay in Thailand for more than 90 days at a time, they will have their visa endorsed and extended by the local immigration office, meaning there is no need to leave the country.

But that's not all. Members are further entitled to a **government concierge ser-**



**vice** to facilitate dealing with any public agency or government department. Furthermore, Thailand Elite regularly hosts **exclusive seminars** and meetings with top business executives and government officers, giving you unparalleled access and essential networking opportunities. With Thailand Elite, the Kingdom is open for business. **AGE**



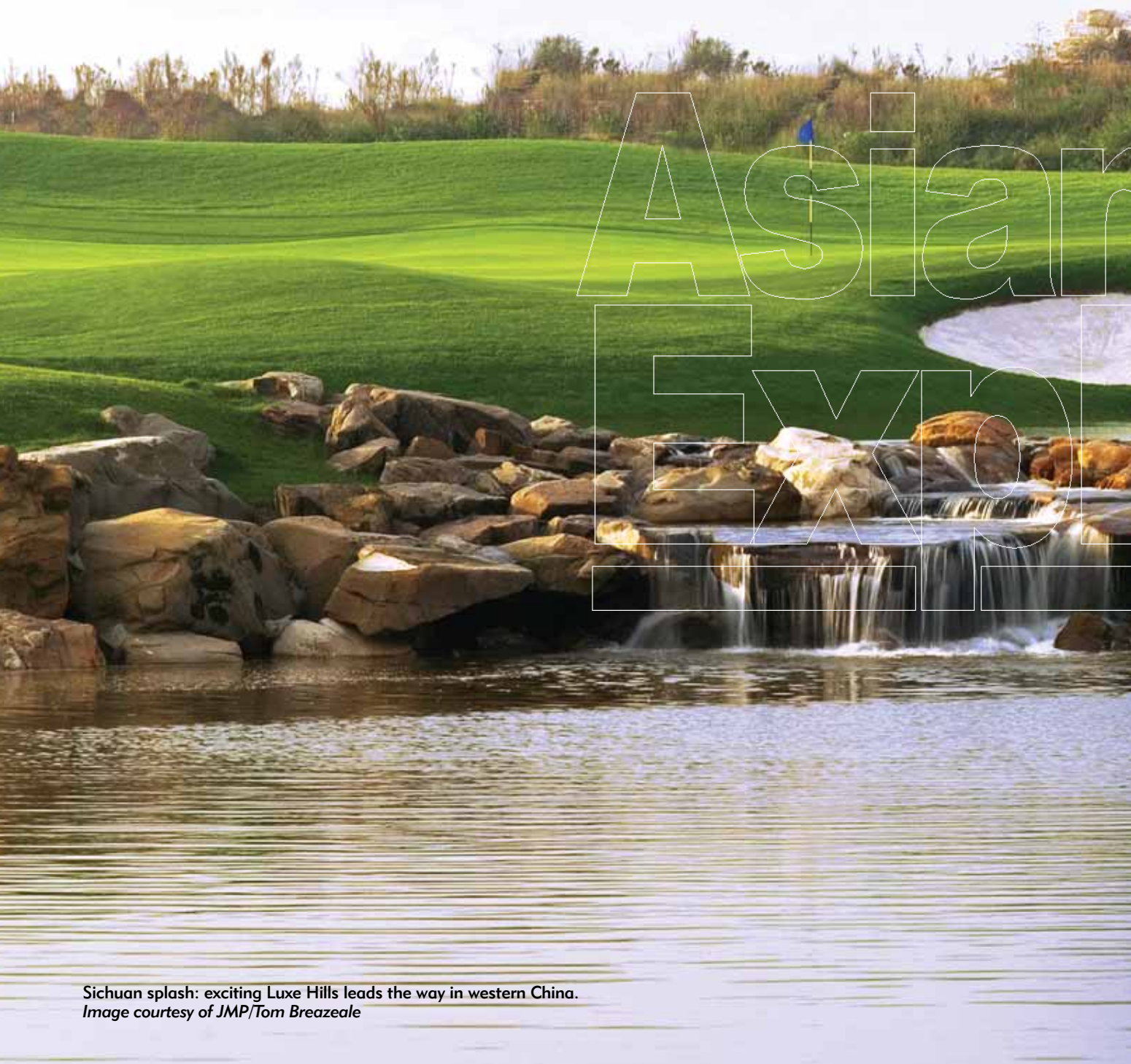
## CONTACT

To learn more about Thailand Elite's ever increasing range of benefits, including discounted dining, shopping and travel services, preferential seating at select concerts and sporting events, city club membership and personal accident insurance coverage visit [www.thailandelite.com.hk](http://www.thailandelite.com.hk) or contact Thailand Elite directly at +852 2559-9280 or email [info@thailandelite.com.hk](mailto:info@thailandelite.com.hk).



# GO WEST

Famous for spicy food and pandas, the emerging city of Chengdu could start making a name for itself through golf – thanks to the newly opened Luxe Hills Community.



Sichuan splash: exciting Luxe Hills leads the way in western China.  
*Image courtesy of JMP/Tom Breazeale*





# n Golf over

FORGET BEIJING, SHANGHAI, SHENZHEN AND GUANGZHOU. If you're looking to make serious money on the mainland these days you've got to head to Chengdu, gateway to China's Wild West. To say that the capital of Sichuan province is currently experiencing something of a financial upsurge would be a serious understatement. Economic growth here far outstrips the cities on the east coast, and with land prices soaring through the roof (more than tripling over the past couple of years alone), the city has caught the attention of savvy investors nationwide.

Golf, by comparison, has been rather slow to get going in these parts. For years, the only option for a round was to trek out to Sichuan International Golf Club, a quaint parkland layout situated close to the busy international airport. And while a game at SIGC is still an agreeable way to spend an afternoon, the place that looks set to attract Chengdu's rapidly emerging

band of golf club-wielding *nouveau riche* is the brand new **Luxe Hills Community** (麓山國際鄉村俱樂部), an upscale residential and leisure development, the highlight of which is its cracking JMP-designed course.

Situated on rolling terrain, a twenty minute drive from downtown Chengdu, this par 72 track, with its ornamental waterfalls and vast, beautifully sculptured white sand bunkering, could be the most visually appealing course in the country. It's an excellent test of golf, too, and with its perfectly manicured fairways and slick bent-grass greens it's no exaggeration to say that this is potentially one of most exciting courses to have opened in China in recent times.

Memberships are expected to be limited to 650 and will go on sale towards the end of the year. **AGE**

*For further information see [www.luxehills.com](http://www.luxehills.com)*



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## Shenzhen 深圳

★★★★★

**Four Point Sheraton 福朋喜來登酒店**

0755-83588632 0755-82830025 No. 5, Guifa Lu, Futian, Shenzhen 深圳市福田保税区桂花路5號

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**Marco Polo Shenzhen 馬哥孛羅好日子酒店**

0755-82976888 0755-82738011 No. 1, Futian Lu, Futian, Shenzhen 深圳市福田中央商務區福華一路

★★★★★

**Canifer Hotels & Resorts 華安康年國際大酒店**

0755-83388888 0755-22165016 (預訂部) / 22165008 No. 2001, Baoan Road, Luohu, Shenzhen 深圳羅湖區寶安南路2001號

★★★★★

**Jin Jiang Shen Zhen Airline Hotel 深航錦江國際酒店**

0755-86819999 0755-82835888 6035 Shennan Road, Futian, Shenzhen 深圳市福田深南大道6035號

★★★★★

**Grand Mercure Oriental Ginza 東方銀座美爵酒店**

0755-83500888 0755-83508687 Shennan Blvd West, Futian, Shenzhen 深圳市福田區深南大道西(竹子林地鐵站附近, 招行往西250米)

★★★★★

**Grand View Hotel 景軒酒店**

0755-82976888 0755-82976524-6616/6614 (預訂部) Futian, Shenzhen 深圳市福田區福華路277號

★★★★★

**Golden Central Hotel 金中環酒店公寓**

0755-23393333 0755-23393336 Futian, Shenzhen 深圳市金中環商務大廈

★★★★★

**Sunshine Hotel 深圳陽光酒店**

0755-82238888 0755-82287477/82226719 Luohu, Shenzhen 深圳市羅湖區嘉寶路一號(近火車站)

★★★★★

**Intercontinental Shenzhen 深圳華僑城洲際大酒店**

0755-33993368 0755-33993966 9009 Shennan Road 深圳市華僑城深南大道9009號

★★★★★

**The Bonanza Hotel & Spa 萬悅國際酒店**

0755-27881888 0755-27781599 Baoan, Shenzhen 深圳市寶安21區前進一路90號寶安中旅大廈

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**Nan Hai Hotel 深圳南海酒店**

0852-23153688/23660813 0852-23117686 Shekou, Shenzhen 深圳蛇口工業區一路一號

★★★★★

**The Interlaken OCT Hotel 深圳茵特拉根華僑城酒店**

0755-88883333 0755-25031114 YanTian, Shenzhen 深圳東部華僑城

★★★★★

**Crown Plaza Hotel, Shenzhen 深圳威尼士皇冠假日酒店**

0755-26936888 0755-26936888 9026 Shennan Road, Shenzhen 深圳市華僑城深南大道9026號

★★★★★

**Mission Hill Resort 駿豪酒店**

**Savannah Wing 賽維納新翼酒店**  
0755-28020888 0755-28024866 Baoan, Shenzhen 深圳寶安觀瀾湖蘭人大道1號(屬觀瀾湖萬酒店, 近三九球場10分鐘車程)

## Huizhou 惠州

★★★★★

**Huizhou Noble Jasper Hotel 惠州天悅大酒店**

0752-2388005/2718630 0752-2388007/2366833 No. 22 Maixin Road, Huizhou, China 惠州市麥地路22號

★★★★★

**Kande Hotel International 康帝國際酒店**

0752-2688888 0752-2688123/2688666 Dukousuo, Huizhou No.1 West Road 惠州環城西一路渡二所

## Zhongshan 中山

★★★★★

**Zhongshan Shangri-La Hotel 中山香格里拉大酒店**

0760-8386888 0760-8232017 廣東省中山市東區紀海北道16號

★★★★★

**Zhongshan Hot Spring Resort 中山溫泉賓館**

0760-6683888 0760-6683888 Sanxiang Township, Zhongshan 廣東省中山市三鄉鎮

## Hainan 海南

★★★★★

**Crown SPA Resort Hainan 海南皇冠濱海溫泉酒店**

0898-6566888 N/A 海南海口市江東新城環山大道1號

★★★★★

**Sheraton Haikou Hotel 海口喜來登溫泉度假酒店**

0898-6870888 0898-6870697 海南海口市秀英區濱海大道199號

## Guangzhou 廣州

★★★★★

**NanSha Grand Hotel 南沙大酒店**

020-39308888 020-34663123 No.1, 2nd South Trade Road, New Coastal City, Nansha Guangzhou, P.R.China 廣州南沙海濱新城南貿大道南二路1號

★★★★★

**Nanyang King's Gate Hotel 南洋長勝酒店**

020-61368888 020-61393888 38, Xinghua Road Tianhe, Guangzhou 廣東省廣州市天河區興華路38號

★★★★★

**Royal Marina Plaza 廣州科爾海悅**

020-34628888 020-34622881 No.288, Qinghe Road, Shiqiao, Panyu District, Guangzhou, People's Republic Of China 廣州市番禺區橋南路288號(近長隆)

★★★★★

**Guangzhou Ocean Apartment 廣州頤和商務酒店**

13312899363/1356608245/020-83688888 020-87628728/87622880 No.416, Huangshidong Road 廣州環市東路416號

★★★★★

**Asia International Hotel 廣東亞洲國際大酒店**

020-61288888 020-61268881 No.326, Seolun 1, Huangshi Dong Road, Guangzhou 廣州環市東路326號之一

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**Guangdong International Hotel 廣東國際大酒店**

020-83311888 020-83313239 No.333, Huangshi Dong Road 廣州環市東路333號

★★★★★

**Royal Mediterranean Hotel 廣州地中海國際酒店**

020-38788888 020-38788623 No.518, Tianhe Road 廣州天河路518號

★★★★★

**Guangzhou Helenbergh 廣州歐洲假日國際酒店公寓**

020-23683688/23689778 020-34600390 No.176, Qianqian Road, Panyu 廣州番禺區市橋南華路176號

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**Regal River Hotel Guangzhou 廣州珠江帝景酒店**

020-61293888 020-61297483 No.1, Jiaojing Street, Yizhou Road, Guangzhou, P.R.C. 廣州琶洲路韻景街1號

★★★★★

**Dong Fang Hotel 廣州東方賓館**

020-86680033 020-86681618 No.120, Jidua Road 廣州恆花路120號

★★★★★

**Dragon Lake Princess Hotel 九龍湖公主酒店**

020-36908888/36908283 020-36908168 Jui Longhu Community, Guangzhou 廣州花都区花東鎮九龍湖社區

★★★★★

**Chime Long Hotel 廣州番禺長隆酒店**

020-84786838-6009 020-84783222 Yingbin Road, Panyu, Guangzhou 廣州番禺大石鎮迎賓路(長隆旁)

★★★★★

**Star River 番禺星河灣酒店**

020-84797588 020-34788607 Yin Bing Lu 廣州番禺大石鎮迎賓路

★★★★★

**Nanyang Royal Hotel 廣州南洋冠盛酒店**

020-61398888 020-61002828 Yirbin Road, Panyu, Guangzhou 廣州番禺大石鎮迎賓路(近長隆)

★★★★★

**Espring Hotel 逸泉國際大酒店**

020-87808888-3315 020-37928818 No.11, Tianhe Road, Tianhe 廣州天河區大塘路11號

★★★★★

**TianLun International Hotel 天倫萬怡大酒店**

020-83936388 020-38824587 No.172, Linhezhong Road, Tianhe 廣州天河區林和中路172號

## Foshan 佛山

★★★★★

**Foshan Hotel 佛山賓館**

0757-8296060 0757-8322358 No.75, South Fenjiang Road, Foshan, China 廣東省佛山市汾江南路75號

★★★★★

**Foshan Panaroma Hotel 佛山駿景酒店**

0757-2560835 0757-25608200 No.2, Qibao Road, Junan Town, Shunde Foshan City, China 佛山順德均安鎮華湖路2號

★★★★★

**Butterfly Valley Resort 蝴蝶谷酒店**

0757-85236500 0757-85231619 Fergand Road, Nanguo Peach Garden, Nanhai Foshan, China 佛山南海南國桃園度假區, 香格士拉花園內

★★★★★

**Fountain Bleu Hotel 楓丹白露酒店**

0757-8523288 0757-85231619 Fergand Road, Nanguo Peach Garden, Nanhai Foshan, China 佛山南海南國桃園度假區, 香格士拉花園內



## Zhuhai 珠海

★★★★★

**Zobon Hotel 珠海中邦酒店**  
0756-3220333 0756-3265009 No. 33 Middle Tower Road, Zhuhai 519015 珠海市吉大情侣中路33號

★★★★★

**Harbour View 怡景灣大酒店**  
0756-3322688 0756-3322385 No. 47 Middle Tower Road, Zhuhai 519015 珠海市吉大情侣中路47號

★★★★★

**Grand Bay View Hotel 珠海海灣大酒店**  
0756-8877998 0756-8878668/8898970 Shuiwan Road, Gongbei, China 珠海市拱北水灣路

★★★★★

**Yunwenquan Hot Spring Resort 珠海雲泉溫泉度假村**  
0755-25125555 Yunwenquan, Zhuhai 珠海斗門

★★★★★

**Zhuhai Holiday Inn Resort 珠海惠假日酒店**  
0756-3228888 0756-3228836 No. 188 Jingzhen Road, Jida, Zhuhai 519015 珠海市吉大景山路188號

★★★★★

**Ocean Spring Resort 海泉灣度假酒店**  
0756-7728888 0755-83012575 Zhuhai, China 珠海半沙嶺海泉灣度假城

★★★★★

**Zhuhai Chang An Holiday Hotel 昌安假日酒店**  
0756-8866888 0756-8805880 2130 Yuhai Road Middle, Gongbei Area Zhuhai City, China 珠海市拱北粵海中路2130號

★★★★★

**Zhuhai Holiday Resort Hotel 珠海渡假村酒店**  
0756-3333333 00852-28332925 No.9 East Shi Hua Road, Ji Da, Zhuhai, Guangdong, China Postal Code: 519015 海大石花東路9號

## Jiangmen 江門

★★★★★

**Palace International Hotel 麗宮國際酒店**  
0750-8233388 0750-8233389/3332222 Jiangmen, China 江門市東華二路18號至28號

★★★★★

**Yucca Hotel 逸豪酒店**  
0750-3928888 0750-3928888-2336 118 Yingbin Road, Jiangmen 江門市迎賓大道中118號

## Dongguan 東莞

★★★★★

**Goodview Hotel- Zhongmutou 樟木頭三正半山酒店**  
0769-83311868 0769-83314950 Shi Xin Road, Zhongmutou 東莞市樟木頭鎮石新大道

★★★★★

**Goodview Hotel- Tangxia 塘廈三正半山酒店**  
0769-87239333 0769-8781926 Ying Bin Avenue Tangxia, Dongguan, Guangdong, P.R.China 東莞市塘廈迎賓大道三源樓(357 省道)

★★★★★

**Crown Price Hotel 東莞太子酒店**  
0769-83633332 0769-8363382 Jiangbei Road, Huangjiang Province, Dongguan, China 廣東省東莞市黃江鎮江北路

★★★★★

**Hui Hua Hotel 匯華國際飯店**  
0769-83338888 0769-83323288 No.2 Changping Avenue, Changping Town, Dongguan City, Guangdong, P.R.C. 廣東省東莞市常平鎮常平大道2號

★★★★★

**Hotel Silverland 東莞銀城酒店**  
0769-22828278 0769-22818228 Yinfeng Rd. Huanggan District, Dongguan, Guangdong, P. R. China 東莞市莞太大道48號

★★★★★

**Metropolitan Yiking Hotel 塘廈新都會怡景酒店**  
0769-87397771 0769-87328300 No.6, Huangshi East Road Tangxia, Dongguan 東莞市塘廈黃市東路6號

★★★★★

**Gladden Hotel, Fenggang 鳳崗金凱悅大酒店**  
0769-8775888 0769-87511200 66 ~ 68 Fengshan Avenue, Fenggang Town, Dongguan 東莞市鳳崗鎮鳳崗大道66-68號

★★★★★

**Royal Garden Hotel 帝豪花園酒店**  
0769-83122222 0769-83123233(銷售部)/83123306(預訂部) 東莞市大朗鎮美寧大道769

★★★★★

**Chinese Hotel 富盈酒店**  
0755-83380186 0755-83370553 GZ-SZ Highway, DongGuan Exit, 11huijie Dongguan 東莞市廣深高速公路東莞大道出口交通處

★★★★★

**DongCheng International Hotel 東城國際酒店**  
0769-22688888 0769-22683333/22688888 No.3, Dong Cheng East Avenue, Dong Cheng District, Dongguan 東莞市東城區東城東路3號

★★★★★

**Dongguan Lung Chuen International Hotel 東莞市龍泉國際大酒店**  
0769-85188688 0769-85188688 Jinzhou Section Lian Sheng Road, Lunen Town, Dongguan City 東莞市虎門鎮連升路金洲段

★★★★★

**Parkview Hotel 長安國際酒店**  
0769-85333333-6230 0769-85337777 1 Jinxiu Road, Changgan, Dongguan 東莞市長安鎮

★★★★★

**Lotus Villa Hotel - ChangAn 東莞長安蓮花山莊酒店**  
0769-85538388 0769-85538662 1 Jinhua Shantou, Changan Town, Dongguan 廣東省東莞市長安蓮花山莊酒店

★★★★★

**Springwood Harbour Hotel 匯源海逸酒店**  
0769-85241888 0769-85228788 Lunen Daibo, Lunen City, Dongguan 東莞市虎門鎮虎門大道

★★★★★

**Softel Royal Lagoon Executive Resort 東莞索菲特峰景酒店**  
0769-22638888 0769-22625005 No.8, Ying Bin Road, Dong Cheng District, Dongguan 東莞市東城區迎賓路8號

★★★★★

**Softel Royal Lagoon Dongguan 東莞索菲特湖景酒店**  
0769-22638888 0769-22625005

★★★★★

**Nile Villa International Hotel 尼羅河國際大酒店**  
0769-22706666 0769-22733322 No.3, Liunamui, Wanda Road, Wanjiajiang, Dongguan 東莞萬江區萬道路華南萬蘭F3區

★★★★★

**Richwood Garden Hotel 豐泰花園酒店**  
0769-85708888 0769-85238822 107 Road, Dabandi, Lunen, Dongguan, Guangdong, China 東莞市虎門鎮宏 107 國道大板北路段

## Other Area 其他地區

★★★★★

**Marriott Holidays Hotel 清遠萬豪假日酒店有限公司**  
0763-3333228 0763-3331111 Qingyuan City, Guangdong, China 清遠市清城區先鋒中路18號

★★★★★

**Shantou Regency Hotel 汕頭帝豪酒店**  
0754-8193888 0754-8800000 汕頭市金砂東路豐華里188號

★★★★★

**Vienna International Hotel Lijiang 雲南麗江維也納國際大酒店**  
0888-5688888 0888-5689999 雲南麗江七星廟街



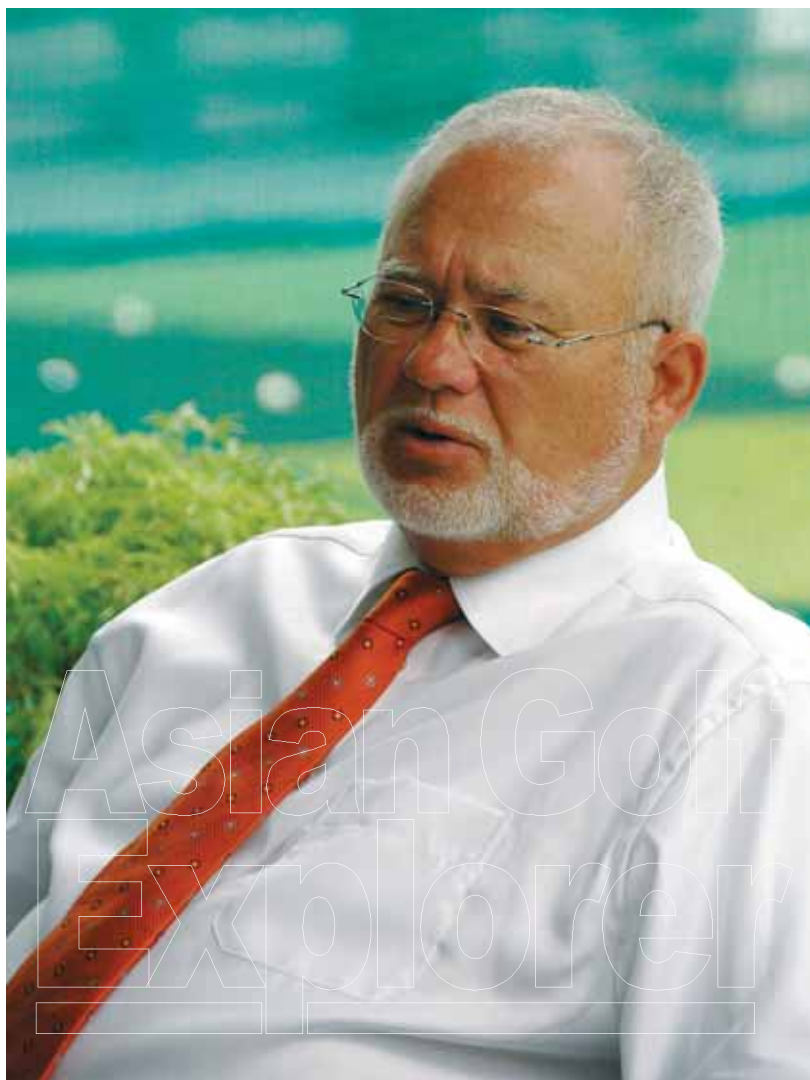
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## INTERVIEW

AGE caught up with the affable Chairman and CEO of Ping during his flying visit to Hong Kong last month. In town to launch the brand's new G10 line of equipment, Solheim talked club making, China, counterfeiting and Cabrera.



# John Solheim Q&A

**AGE: Welcome to Hong Kong. We know this isn't your first trip here but have you had anytime to have a good look around the place, and where do you like to stay?**

**JS :** I always stay at the Marco Polo Hong Kong Hotel – it's where my father (Karsten Solheim, the founder of Ping) always used to stay and I like the location. Unfortunately I never have enough time to really get out and about but I really love the place – the energy here is something else. I first came to Hong Kong in 1969 as part of a world tour I was doing

for the company and have made many other visits since. It's a really exciting place – even more so at the moment what with everyone's interest in China.

**AGE: You've just come from the Solheim Cup in Sweden where the American team defeated the European team. As your family sponsors the event and given your Norwegian heritage (John's father Karsten moved to the United States from Bergen as a young boy), I guess you can't favour one team over the other?**

**JS :** I'm very neutral. I consider myself an American, of course, but actually my mother is French, so we're a very European family. What I like to see at the event is a very closely fought match – and this time it was a lot closer than it looked. It only needed a couple of the games to go the other way and the Europeans could have finished on top. Put it this way, I was happy for the Americans to win. To win on the opposition's home soil is a great achievement.



**AGE:** I can't help but notice you're wearing a rather fetching orange tie – might that have anything to do with the launch of Ping's new G10 range of equipment which features an orange colour scheme?

**JS :** Ha! Yeah. It took a while finding the right colour, and this was the closest match I could find. The colour of the G10 and the i10 line is actually atomic orange, which is the same as the new colour scheme used by Corvette, the automobile maker. So this is my atomic orange tie.

**AGE:** Why orange, though? Who thought of that?

**JS :** We considered a range of other colours, but really loved the look of orange. It was my son John who came up with the idea. We all agreed it was the right colour to use.

**AGE:** Clearly Lee Westwood, who won last week on the European Tour, likes it too?

**JS :** That was amazing. Lee had been using the S58s for a long time and made the switch to the G10 driver and fairway woods and the i10 irons and Tour W wedges just a few weeks ago. The funniest moment came on the seventeenth hole where he made an eagle. The commentator said that he was playing his 3-wood from the rough but wouldn't be able to reach in two as there was a bunker protecting the green. So Lee steps up and launches his 3-wood right over the bunker to about 25-feet. It was a great shot and very satisfying to watch.

**AGE:** It must have been an extremely satisfying year for Ping with Angel Cabrera – AGE's favourite player - and Lorena Ochoa winning majors for the first time. Are you close to the Ping staff players?

**JS :** It has been a really great year for us. Ping is a family business, and we like our players to feel like they're part of the family too. I was delighted for both Angel and Lorena. I meet up with Angel



American dream: Cabrera's win was also a win for Ping

at all the majors – he's a real major player. There are some guys who are major players, and he's one of them. Chris DiMarco is another. The funny thing about Angel was that he was playing alongside Bubba Watson [another Ping player] in the third round and they were just trying to out hit each other. Angel is really long, but Bubba is even longer. On one hole Angel rips his best drive of the day and looks over to Bubba as if to say, 'try beating that.' Bubba then flies it past Angel's ball. Amazing. They're both great guys and I couldn't be happier for Angel. He played truly great golf.

**AGE:** And Lorena? You finally signed her up as a Ping staff player recently. Why did it take so long?

**JS :** Yes. Lorena has played with Ping equipment since she was 15, but we never actually had a contract with her. Her Mexican sponsors pay a great deal of money for her cap and bag endorsements – an

amount that we couldn't match. The cap and bag endorsements are very important because they get the most exposure. However, I attended a dinner at the Masters earlier this year and Lorena gave a wonderful speech. I was very impressed with her and really felt we needed to strengthen our relationship with her. She's a wonderful lady. We're delighted she's become an official Ping player.

**AGE:** Ping is one of the very few equipment manufacturers who don't make clubs in China. Will that ever change – for financial reasons or otherwise?

**JS :** Our irons, wedges and putters are made in the U.S. Our drivers are actually made in China, but we're going to move production for those back to the U.S. as soon as possible. We have

all the technology in the U.S. – the new technology is so precise – so we've never really felt the need to outsource all our manufacturing overseas. That's not going to change.

**AGE:** Do your customers prefer the fact that the majority of Ping clubs are made in the United States?

**JS :** Yes, very much so. It's a big advantage for us.

**AGE:** How big a problem is counterfeit club making?

**JS :** Huge. It's a huge problem and it's very sad to see. The difference between a real club and a counterfeit club might not seem like much from the outside, but the difference in technology where it matters – on the inside of the clubhead

– is vast. The counterfeit clubs have none of the benefits of the real clubs. It doesn't just apply to golf clubs, of course. Clothing, DVDs – they're all affected by it too. It's terrible to see.

#### John's Bag

##### All Ping

G10 Driver 9.5 degrees

G10 4-wood

G10 Hybrids 21 + 24 degrees

G10 Irons (4-PW)

Tour-W Wedges 52 + 58 degrees

Karsten Anser



# INTERVIEW

**AGE:** China is the number one culprit when it comes to counterfeit clubs. How well do you think the authorities are managing the problem?

**JS:** It's very difficult. In fact, we're part of a coalition of manufacturers who work with the government to try and prevent it from happening. Having said that, the Chinese will soon realize that junk doesn't sell. It can't. When I was a kid, Japanese products were considered inferior – they were junk. The Japanese realized that they if they wanted to compete they had to improve. Nowadays, the Japanese make some of the finest products around. They have learnt their lesson. The Koreans, too. Korean cars used to be considered junk. Now they make great cars. I believe the same will happen in China. It certainly has to if Chinese manufacturers want to develop their own brands, rather than just making things for everyone else.

**AGE:** Generally speaking, Ping doesn't release products as often as some of your

competitors. What's the reasoning behind that, and what do you think of some manufacturers who knock out new drivers every couple of months?

**JS:** Over the years we've released a new driver on an annual basis, but there has actually been two years between the G5 and the launch of the new G10. For irons, the period is generally longer. The reason being that sales actually tend to grow after the first year of the club being released. For instance, the G5 irons sold even better in their second year on the market than they did during the first. I can understand why other manufacturers introduce new drivers to the market so often – the technological advances and so forth. But that's not an approach we're really keen to follow. We have come to learn that if you make as good a club as you can possibly make, it will keep selling for years afterwards. We don't need to introduce new lines of equipment all the time.

**AGE:** How much golf are you playing these days?

**JS:** 2007 has been a great year for me. I've played quite a lot – and have played some great courses. Playing the Old Course at St. Andrews was an obvious highlight, as was playing Halmstad (venue of the 2007 Solheim Cup), which is one of Europe's finest courses. I still love playing.

**AGE:** What's your favourite course?

**JS:** Tough question. I'd have to say Cypress Point in California.

**AGE:** How about in Asia – any favourites?

**JS:** Unfortunately I haven't played as much over here as I would like. I've played a couple of times in Singapore and Thailand, but not much recently. Anywhere I should try?

**AGE:** The North at Kau Sai Chau Public Golf Course here in Hong Kong. It's a great layout with beautiful views. Tough, though. Gets windy.

**JS:** Well, I might just have to try it out some time. Thanks for letting me know. **AGE**

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東方棕泉  
國際會所



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## POK OI CHEERING GOLF DAY 2007

日期：2007年11月30日(星期五)  
 地點：深圳西麗高爾夫鄉村俱樂部  
 目的：籌募博愛醫院社會服務經費  
 參賽資格：各界高爾夫球愛好者  
 參賽名額：144名  
 比賽形式：比桿賽  
 計分方法：新新貝利亞

獎品總值  
 超過88萬

個人淨桿冠軍：HONMA 3星 鐵桿 AP701 一套 (價值：港幣\$45,000)  
 個人淨桿亞軍：HONMA 2星 木桿 BERES MG811 一支 (價值：港幣\$8,000)  
 個人淨桿季軍：HONMA 球具包 BERES CB2709 一個 (價值：港幣\$3,430)  
 最遠距離獎：HONMA 3星 木桿 BERES 912 一支 (價值：港幣\$9,800)  
 最近球洞獎：HONMA 推桿 BERES PUTTER 一支 (價值：港幣\$2,000)

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 隊制總桿獎亞軍(四名)：HONMA 3星 木桿 TM425RF 四支 (總值：港幣\$39,200)  
 隊制總桿獎季軍(四名)：HONMA 挖起桿 BERES WEDGE 四支 (總值：港幣\$5,600)

參賽費用：**HK\$4,000 (個人)** **HK\$16,000 (隊制4人)**

截止報名日期：2007年11月14日(星期三)

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主辦機構 博愛醫院

聯絡人：陳小姐

電話：(852) 2479 0022 內線18

傳真：(852) 2479 5025

網站：<http://www.pokoi.org.hk>

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## **G10 Driver and G10 Draw Driver** *Long and Strong*

The G-series drivers continue for Ping and these two models appear to be following the same mold as the previous model, Ping's G5. Both with 460cc bodies, Ping follows suit of other major club manufacturers using a taller face and deeper crown to produce a higher moment-of inertia (MOI). Although it appears only minor tweaks have been made in the creation of the G10 drivers, Ping's worldwide tour staff, including Chris DiMarco and Angel Cabrera, have obviously enjoyed the small changes.

## **G10 Fairway Woods and Hybrids** *Keeping it in Play*

As with the G10 drivers, Ping's G10 and G10 Draw Fairway Woods have undergone some minor changes. One of the largest is a lower center of gravity created by a large weight pad on the sole. This allows for a higher ball velocity with reduced spin.



G10 Driver

G10 Draw Driver

Tour-W 50



## **Tour W-Wedge** *A Thing of Beauty*

One of the most elegant wedges on the market today, the Tour-W features a milled face and grooves for added control and consistency. As you might expect, a vast array of loft and bounce options are available.

## **Shaft Technology**

In addition to releasing new clubs, Ping has released new technology in the shaft department. With both the G10 and i10 iron sets Ping uses an Ascending Weight Technology (AWT) shaft design. The longer the clubs, the lighter the shaft will be and the shorter the clubs, the heavier the shaft will be. The aim in this design is to provide the golfer consistent weight progression with clubs and to increase clubhead speed in long irons while adding consistency and control with the short irons. In graphite shafts, Ping is releasing the TFC 129 and 129i shafts. These are the standard shafts for the G10 Drivers and are available in numerous flexes to match each player's swing type.



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**Mizuno MP-600** In addition to the MP-57's, Mizuno has launched another beautiful piece of equipment – the jumbo-headed MP-600 Driver. Featuring Fast Track Technology – a nifty name for its two adjustable eight gram weights – Mizuno says that players can choose from 15 ball flight settings to fine tune the centre of gravity and achieve their ideal ball flight for maximum control. While it's easy to get lost in all the techno jargon, one thing is for sure: this is a seriously cool-looking piece of kit that even the most traditional of players will find easy on the eye.

**HK\$6,600 (MP-57: 3-PW) / HK\$3,100 (MP-600)** Call 2428-5965 or visit [www.mizunogolf.com](http://www.mizunogolf.com).

**Mizuno MP-57** Whenever Mizuno announces they're releasing new irons, the world's better players – be they amateur or professional – take notice. Mizuno's is a name that instantly conjures up images of classic-looking blades that give unparalleled feedback and workability, but that are not really suited to the average recreational golfer. Of course, the Japanese clubmaker has its very successful range of MX irons, which are designed to benefit lesser mortals, but as good as they are, the MX lacks the gracefulness of the MP series. Well good news, because Mizuno has launched the MP-57 irons, which have all the beauty and workability of their MP predecessors, but with a bigger sweetspot for increased forgiveness. Described as the crowning achievement in the evolution of the award-winning Grain Flow Forging and Cut Muscle technologies, the MP-57 is the first MP iron that features a full cavity back, making it not only the most playable MP iron in history, but which also gives a higher ball flight in the longer irons and a mid trajectory in the scoring clubs. Now it's not just better players who should take notice.





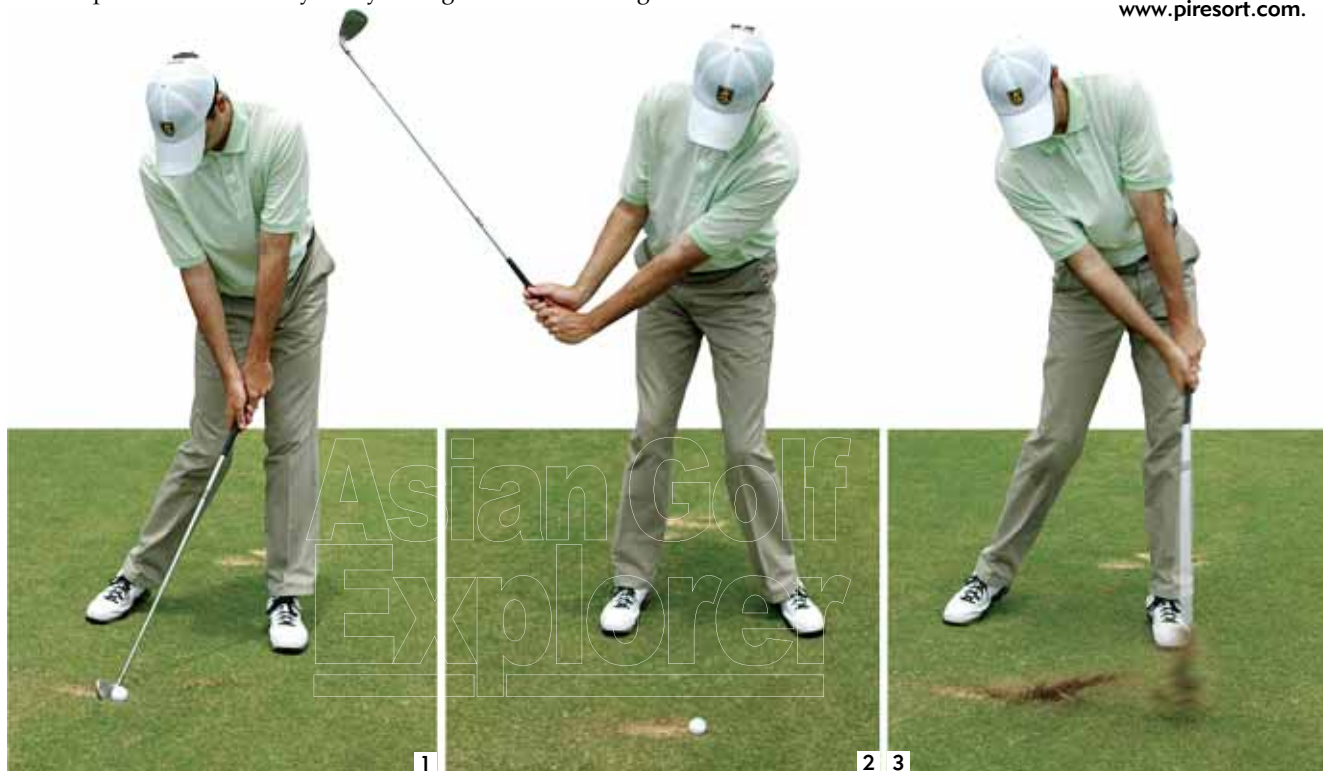


## DEALING WITH DIVOTS



**Shay** is the Director of Golf at Palm Island Resort and a qualified PGA instructor. To learn more about Shay and the Palm Island Academy visit [www.piresort.com](http://www.piresort.com).

You've just smoked your drive down the middle of the fairway only to find your ball sitting in a sand-filled divot. It's annoying, I know, but don't despair – getting good *and* bad breaks on the course is all part of golf, so you have to accept what comes your way. Luckily, playing from a divot isn't as tough as it looks. It's certainly not the best place to be, but as long as you follow these tips, it's not quite the horror story that you might have first thought.



**1.** Your ball position should be slightly back of centre. This will encourage a steeper angle of attack, which is the key to better contact. Also, choose a club with a bit more loft than you would usually take as the ball will come out hotter than normal - lower and with less spin.

**2.** You need to be a bit steeper than normal in your takeaway. Instead of dragging the club back as you would normally, you need to hinge your wrists early. Again, this will promote a steeper angle of attack, which is crucial to this shot.

**3.** Always make sure to keep the club and your body low to the ground through impact. Don't imagine you're 'lifting' the ball out of this lie. Quite the opposite. You should be hitting down and through the divot, accentuating a lower finish than you would normally.

### Summary

So the next time you find your ball in a divot, don't get angry. Follow these tips and you'll start hitting the ball a lot more solid. Accepting your situation is one of the most important mental aspects in golf, so instead of blaming your bad luck, approach this shot with a confident attitude.

And as always, if you need swing or course management advice, seek the guidance of a PGA professional. **AGE**



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