

TRAVEL + LEISURE

SOUTHEAST ASIA

DECEMBER 2015

PERTH IS BACK
ON THE MAP
MODERN BURMA
GOES VINTAGE
BEST OF 2015

AFTER HOURS

BANGKOK, LONDON,
SAN FRANCISCO,
CAPE TOWN AND HAVANA

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SINGAPORE S\$7.90 / HONG KONG HK\$43
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MACAU MOP44 / PHILIPPINES PHP240
BURMA MMK35 / CAMBODIAKHR22,000
BRUNEI BND7.90 / LAOS LAK52,000

The Italian-designed pool deck at The Reverie hotel, in Saigon.



the BEST of 2015

T+L ROUNDS UP THE COOLEST NEW OPENINGS IN BALI, RANGOON, HONG KONG, SINGAPORE AND SYDNEY, PLUS A FEW HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REST OF THE REGION. FROM BOUTIQUE HOTELS, TO HOME-GROWN FASHION, TO BATTER-FRIED CHICKEN, EACH DESTINATION HAS SOMETHING SPECIAL TO CELEBRATE THIS YEAR.

BEST OF THE REST

ACROSS ASIA: TOUR AMAN PRIVATE JET EXPEDITIONS

What's the best way to get from astonishingly ancient point A to bucket-list beautiful point B? Gold star if you said Aman, who this year married their understated luxury with over-the-top adventure, in an epic, exclusive, private-plane trip that flew a few couples among their resorts in China, Bhutan, India and Sri Lanka. On the ground, each pair had a private car and guide so they could climb to Tiger's Nest monastery and scout Bengal tigers

at their own pace. The next three journeys, in March and April 2016, will span China; traipse across Asia, from Amanpulo's Philippine island to the new Aman Tokyo; and tour Indonesia including sailings on Aman's own phinisis. The inaugural trip sold out in weeks, so we suggest you book now... then prime your passport for all the action. aman.com; from US\$28,888 per person double occupancy.

SAIGON: HOTEL THE REVERIE

Crystal walls and chandeliers, violet ostrich-leather furniture, a 19th-century grand piano refinished in malachite and bronze, glittering mosaic bathroom floors—this is the Cirque du Soleil of hotels, with its kaleidoscopic colors, aerial views, and rotating acts (of top-flight Italian designers) that take center

stage depending on what room you're in. We're in love with the duplex Saigon suite by Visionnaire, full of baby-soft leather, but it doesn't have to cost US\$12,500 a night to bask in their impeccable service, from the liveried doormen who tote your parcels to your room chatting away in stellar English to the restaurant managers who intuit your need for honey-ginger tea. At The Reverie, the six-star dream is very much alive. thereveriesaigon.com; doubles from US\$350.

BANGKOK: BRUNCH KNOCK

You don't need to be a sneakerhead to be obsessed with kitchen-and-kicks spot Knock's all-you-can-eat a la carte Sunday fun day full of American comfort food remixed: think wee buttermilk cupcakes with perfectly seasoned fried chicken bites. They've cut a giant hole in the bright green back wall and fully sown off the ceiling, replacing it with a retractable roof, so you can sit inside and still have a sun-kissed Sunday brunch. Which—after the free flow Chandon and Bloody Marys swilled to the DJ's crowd-pleasing tunes—will inevitably turn into a Sunday dance party. Forgot your dancing shoes? The sneaks are on sale upstairs. knockbkk.com; Knockout Sunday brunch Bt1,950.

For more of the best new places to imbibe in Bangkok, turn to our global nightlife guide, "Raising the Bar," on page 95.—JENINNE LEE-ST. JOHN



Booze, shoes, brunch: you name it, Knock's got you covered.