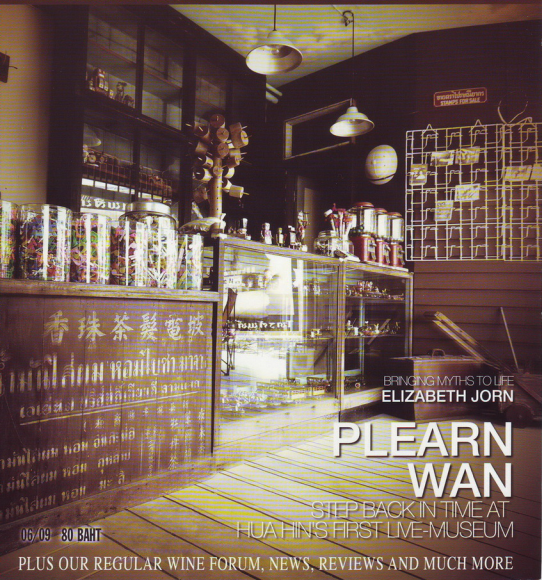


HUA HIN

The Art of Resort Living

Monthly



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The Lapa – where a good night's sleep is assured

Boutique hotels are appearing faster in Hua Hin than puddles during the rainy season. It's a competitive accommodation climate in which only the strongest – and most innovative – will survive. Not that this worries the owners of The Lapa

LOCATED off Phetchakasem Road on Soi 102, La Lapa is one of the latest additions to Hua Hin's Boutique hotel options. It's owned and operated by the Thiangtham family, and they're passionate about offering a relaxing experience.

Executive Director Khun Nophasit Thiangtham says: "There are many rustic resorts in Hua Hin so we have gone for a modern yet cozy approach. We want guests to be totally relaxed here, so we've used the best brands. This starts from the beds: we bought the most comfortable beds on the market."

He's not exaggerating either. The beds at La Lapa are perhaps the comfiest you'll ever sleep in. Even an insomniac would have trouble nodding off when lying back on a mattress that seems to mould to your body.

Such attention to detail is what gives The Lapa its strength. Walk around the hotel and you'll notice how the design flows seamlessly from the building into the rooms: a blend of dark woods, white washed walls, and earthy tones completed by splashes of turquoise and blue. It all adds up to create a subtle marine feel reminiscent of a luxury beachside retreat – without being next to the beach.

At the centre of the hotel is a large swimming pool. The first in Hua Hin to be treated with Ozone and salt, including a shallow pool for kids. At one end of the pool is The Pier Spa (featuring a wide range of traditional treatments conducted in two private rooms), and at



the other The Pool Bar, which has its own mini beach and serves up snacks, beers and various Sangrias from 10am – 7pm.

Also next to the pool is a library that doubles as a large meeting and seminar room equipped with relevant facilities.

The Lapa has 32 rooms in total and, depending on your needs, has five different room types to choose from.

All 24 Superior and Deluxe Rooms at La Lapa feature either double or twin beds and are fully furnished and equipped with LCD TV and Cable (DVD available on request), fully stocked mini-bar, high speed wireless internet, and many home-comforts such as dressing gowns and slippers. If you have kids, the option to connect two rooms is possible.

The best choice for families and long stay guests are the Super Grand and Grand Island Rooms. Spread over two storeys, these rooms feature 2/3 bedrooms, a living room with comfortable sofa, 40" LCD TV, household size refrigerator, and microwave.

Looking for more privacy? Then opt for an Island Room, a standalone structure located a few steps from the pool with the



same facilities as the Superior and Deluxe Rooms, but with its own private balcony.

All rooms boast large modern bathrooms with separate bath and shower.

A definite bonus at the hotel are its restaurants. A breakfast buffet and a la carte menu is served at the Sand Café & Sushi Bar which also offers casual all-day dining from 6am – 10pm. Sea Restaurant, meanwhile, serves up fresh seafood and Thai and European specialities, open 10.30am – 11pm. Both restaurants offer a modern café design.

Located above the restaurants on the rooftop is the open air Sky Bar & Grill, which is open daily from 5.30pm – 11pm, and on weekends offers an extensive Seafood BBQ Buffet.

The best news is that all the restaurants' portions are generous and, unlike most high end resorts, offer excellent value for money. The Lapa's specialities include: Wagyu beef hamburger; crispy rice noodle with seafood gravy; deepfried pork knuckle; and fermented noodle with mackerel salad. Mains start at 80 baht. Sweet lovers should not miss the Homemade Rum cake with Movenpick ice cream. It's delicious.

The Lapa is currently offering a special introductory room rate – 50% off.

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