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MARCH/APRIL 2014

Islands of Temptation More than just blue beauty in

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gems and natural treasures



Borneo beckons to the bold





resort stays in

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ELYSIAN REALVIS

Be kissed by bliss as you bask in the warmth of the sun, the coolness of the breeze, and the salted scent of the seas at these halcyonian hideaways

WORDS ADORA WONG



equinned with more than 130 islands, the Krabi archipelago that lies along the coast of the Andaman Sea in Southern Thailand is recognised for its multitude of wondrous natural gifts. Tourism is an important industry, and the town is constantly working on preserving its host of ivory-sanded beaches, crystalline waters, exquisite coral reefs and enigmatic caves for both the good of the island and its visitors.

BEST FOR NATURE FANCIERS Rayavadee

214 Moo 2, Tambon Ao-Nang, Amphoe Maung, Krabi 81000, Thailand; tel: +66 75 620 740

Follow the mesmerising trail of luxuriant foliage, bewitching limestone cliffs and powdered beaches at this multiple award winner resting on the edge of Krabi's National Marine Park.

This resort of superlative repute comprises 98 double-storey pavilions and four private villas dotted across acres of tropical vegetation and coconut groves, its grand natural setting serving to amplify the transcendent atmosphere. Each pavilion is panelled with top-class wood and decorated with carefully handmade ornaments, and certain categories offer a hydro-pool set enclosed by a lush landscape.

Indubitably the superstar of the property and one that has made the resort famous, The Grotto is a restaurant sheltered under a limestone cliff off Phranang Beach that dishes up a delectable menu to go along with the delightful sunset. Other failproof dining options include Raya Dining, Krua Phranang, and Rai Talay Terrace, and a place that will keep you in higher spirits is the Rayavadee Spa.

TOP DRAW: Whether it is having lanterns illuminate the sea-facing cave housing The Grotto, having starlight or candlelight radiate through Rai Talay Terrace, or having sunrays at the Coconut Lawn, weddings will be extra magical at the resort because of its location.

NEARBY: Go on sea excursions and discover the magnificence of Phi Phi Islands, Phang Nga Bay, and Poda & Chicken Island. Land excursions include ascending 1,000 steps to the summit of Tiger Cave Temple, hiking through Hat Noppharat Thara - Mu Ko Phi Phi National Park, and elephant riding in the vicinity.

PRICE: From US\$353 per night during low season



