

PRIVATE PARADISE

From Thailand, a new concept. A private estate where you get all the luxury of full hotel service in a beautifully landscaped compound, a world away from business and bustling tourist spots.

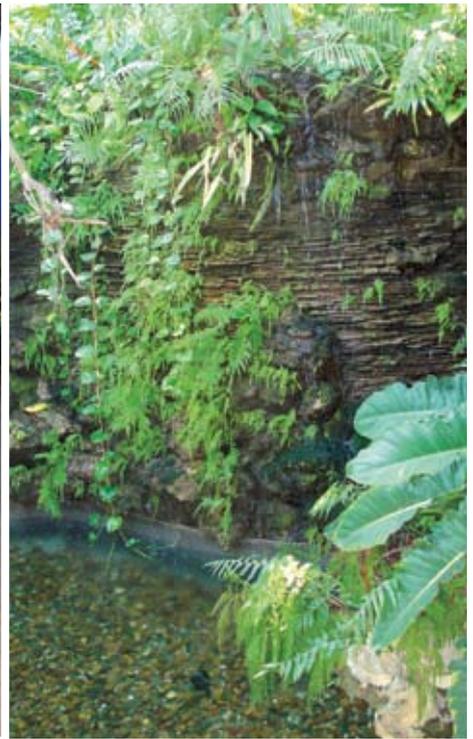


It is called The Tamarind and indeed there are two fine tamarind trees that dominate the lush gardens by the large swimming pool.

The man behind it is British financier Justin Tate who came to Thailand nine years ago on an impromptu holiday, fell in love with the place and decided to build something permanent he could come to from his frenzied job in Tokyo and London.

He comes from a large family so he wanted enough room to house them all on holiday. This led to the building of a compound with several separate villas, inspired, strangely enough, by Bali with a little fusion of Asian art and architecture – but all designed for comfort. (For this Tate called in Bali designer Fifi Derose, pictured with the colourful umbul-umbul).

But it did not end there. The Country Club next door was lying idle so Tate bought that and totally refurbished it to have extra bedrooms and a conference centre. (It also came with its own huge pool). So the whole thing now approaches two hectares – all presided over by two friendly Jack Russell terriers called Dennis and Minnie.





THE SEA

The Tamarind is on a gentle slope in the exclusive gated community known as "Buraran." From high vantage points, such as the lounge tower, you can see the charming marine village of Bangsaray, the coast and the little islands that dot the horizon beyond. Bangsaray (meaning simply village by the sea) also boasts a dozen fine fresh seafood restaurants.

Tamarind guests also have privileged access to Sai Kaew Beach, a semi-private beach within a base of the Royal Thai Navy.

You reach here though the Naval Academy grounds and up over the hills facing Monkey Island. It is wonderfully relaxing; the aquamarine water is safe and there are also more seafood restaurants here, serving excellent Thai seafood.

PATTAYA

The estate is an easy 90 minutes' drive by multi-laned motorway from Suvarnabhumi Airport; fortunately you do not have to drive through Bangkok which is 20 minutes in the other direction.

It is 20 minutes from the Jomtien/Pattaya beach resort areas with loads of shopping (many people in the know go to Pattaya to shop for jewellery) and you will want to (at least) see 'Walking Street' where there is indeed a lot of 'street walking.' Bars, restaurants, clubs: think Stadium on Steroids.

There is a marina if you are coming by boat; no less than 10 golf courses nearby, horseback riding, a zoo, the crocodile park, the water park, go-karting track, an elephant safari – even a polo club.



You have access to traditional Thai cultural performances and you are a short drive from the Botanical Gardens, national parks and mountain bike trails

A must-visit is the Silverlake vineyard, only 10 minutes away from Tamarind. You can picnic, taste the wine or eat in the fine Italian restaurant.

PEACE & QUIET

Bururan Estate, surrounding The Tamarind, is fully mature with more than five kilometres of private, tree-lined roads that are perfect for jogging, biking or strolling – all security protected 24 hours.

When you come home from a strenuous day at the beach or on the golf course, you can have a sundowner on the lounge-deck or in the 'living room.' Dinner is a together thing at the long dining table where you will have delicious Thai or Western food. Alcohol and beer can be purchased in-house.

There are 12 dedicated who will look after your every need – even to ojeking you down to Bangsaray to the market or a restaurant.

The Tamarind has spacious accommodation for up to 26 guests, sharing nine beautifully-designed bedroom suites, plus three additional bedrooms in the adjacent Buraran Clubhouse – every one has ensuite bathroom. There is even an ultra-comfortable home theatre.

It is ideal if you are seeking privacy, luxury and highly personalized service; whether as an individual, an extended family, or a group of executives needing to unwind. It could also be the perfect getaway for that romantic escape for two.

It is perfect for a large family or a friends' holiday gathering. Just like Justin Tate's family does every year.

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