

BANGKOK'S RIVER HERITAGE GOING WILD OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

PAIROJ KARNDEE'S CELESTIAL INSPIRATION





AHOY THERE!

The yachting elite's annual gatherings in Phuket to mark the opening of Asia's luxury charter season have a new flag to sail under this year, the Kata Rocks Superyacht Rendezvous (KRSR). This inaugural event, from 10 to 12 December, will see a fleet of eye-goggling vessels drop anchor offshore the iconic resort, while their owners mingle onshore in a series of social occasions. Sponsored by Infinite Luxury, the development and management brand behind Kata Rocks, KRSR welcomes sailing and motor yachts over 24 metres in length, along with selected industry partners including Lee Marine, Phuket's international marine brokerage. katarockssuperyachtrendezvous.com



SHADY GOINGS-ON

They've been celebrating umbrellas in Bo Sang village near Chiang Mai for more than 100 years, ever since a travelling monk passed on the secret of how to make them from Saa paper as protection from the sun. The legend says he brought the technique from Myanmar, and locals quickly took it up as an important way of making money. Whatever the origin, the Bo Sang Umbrella Festival in the third weekend of January has become an annual community event with musical bands, beauty contests and food festivals. The streets are filled with lanterns and hundreds of the traditional hand-painted umbrellas, which are vibrantly beautiful and uniquely Thai. tourismthailand.org

A NEED FOR SPEED

It's the Usain Bolt of the car world - this new Bugatti Chiron is said to accelerate from 0-62 mph in a hair-raising 2.4 seconds. The sleek carbon fibre supercar with an eight-litre turbocharged engine made its Southeast Asian debut at the 2016 Singapore F1 Grand Prix, where it was unveiled to customers at exclusive private appointments. Bugatti claims a top speed of 288 mph and the title of the world's most powerful, fastest, exclusive and luxurious production super sports car. They say it can also hit 0–124 mph in under 6.5 seconds and 0–186 mph in under 13.6 seconds, but to rein in their beast somewhat, top speed is electronically limited to 261mph. bugatti.com



WATER IMAGES

Phuket's international marine brokerage company, Lee Marine, celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2017 by stepping aboard the world of visual imagery with a specially-commissioned collection of exhilarating water-borne photographs. The shots were taken aboard fast-moving yachts producing swirling wake patterns in the waters off Phuket, by acclaimed British art photographer Richard Mark Dobson. Every image echoes the striking scenery and the power of the photographer's yacht platform. The Lee Marine-PULSE collection will debut in an exclusive PULSE calendar launched at an invite-only party during The Thailand Yacht Show, held 15-18 December at Ao Por Marina, Phuket, leemarine.com

