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Pearls of the

If the thought of monster hotels with ten pools, an equal number of restaurants and hot and cold running everything, sends shivers down your spine, then our Southeast Asia specialists may have the antidote. Here they choose a selection of their favourite small hotels in the region.

Terres Rouge Cambodia

Decorated in Khmer antiques and rich fabrics, the Terres Rouge guesthouse is a truly stunning place to experience Cambodia's 'wild west' Ratnakiri Province. It is not merely the beautiful interior of this unique property that singles it out, its proximity to local ethnic villages, serene lakes and a bustling market makes it in our eyes a little gem.

Specialist: Katie Thompson 01869 276 224.



Koh Yao Island Resort Southern Thailand

The 15 bungalows of the Koh Yao Island Resort nestle in the palm trees of this small, quiet and idyllic island. Two of the walls on each bungalow are shutters which can be pulled away to reveal views of the turquoise sea and the striking green islands beyond. A fitting and relaxing end to any tour in Southeast Asia. *Specialist:* Charlie Read 01869 276 234.



Sandoway Myanmar

Sandoway is a chic and tranquil retreat that enjoys the longest stretch of Ngapali's sandy white beach. The cottages are designed with peace and quiet in mind with no televisions, telephones or refrigerator – instead the mini bar is a wooden icebox filled daily. A wonderful location to relax after a busy tour. *Specialist:* Kate Dicks 01869 276 258.





La Residence Phou Vao Laos

Unique because of its beautiful Asian style, exquisite wooden furnishings and signature giant stone bathtubs, La Residence Phou Vao is the most characterful option in historic Luang Prabang. Set in three hectares of beautiful gardens with exotic flowers, all 34 rooms have private balconies with views of the surrounding countryside and the stunning infinity pool looks out over this peaceful and atmospheric land.

Specialist: Jennifer Perrier 01869 276 256.

Sukantara Resort Northern Thailand

At the Sukantara Resort spring water from the lush Chiang Mai mountains cascades over boulders directly below six luxury Balinese and Lanna style cottages. With private access to the Doi Suthep Poi National Park, the Sukantara has an enviable and secluded location. The property has a charming owner who adds to the wonderful ambience.

Specialist: Kate Dicks 01869 276 258.



Life Resort Qui Nhon Vietnam

Nestled in a private bay on Vietnam's southern coast is this refined and stylish hotel, catering for those looking to escape the crowds and the bustle of the city. The nearest airport is 30 miles away, the nearest town of any size 20 miles away and the nearest main road almost a mile away, making this one of Indochina's most secluded resorts. The ethos behind the design and feel of the place is best summed up by its motto "Bring your senses to life". Earthy colours, high ceilings and broad sea views are complemented by unfussy service and a commitment to relaxation.

Specialist: Huw Owen 01869 276 274.



Uma Bali

Just a 15 minute walk from Bali's cultural heart, Ubud, the Uma oozes charm and understated style. Sited at the top of Campuan Valley, with views across the river, you can explore the rice terraced landscape and temples. Stroll into Ubud for the fine, high quality crafts for which it has become synonymous. The restaurant at the Uma is one of the best on the island. *Specialist:* Isabel Smith 01869 276 231.

