

Our Southeast Asia specialists look at responsible ways to discover the region in comfort

Travel Fair

Meeting people from different cultures and backgrounds is one of the joys of travel, especially when you know that your visit is helping to improve the provision of local medical resources and education, create respectable job opportunities and contribute to the protection of fragile natural environments.

These destinations are examples of sustainable, responsible travel projects in Southeast Asia which benefit local people and environments without compromising on the quality of your stay.



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Environmental

El Nido, the Philippines

Located on a private island within a marine reserve, this environmentally friendly hotel donates a set sum of money for every guest to an Ecotourism Maintenance Fund which helps preserve and protect the local environment. All products supplied in the bathrooms are detergent free so will not harm the ecology of the area, and guests are asked to take any plastic and non-biodegradable waste with them to Manila to be recycled. Every guest is asked to help keep track of the rarer, at-risk animals and marine life, and the resorts in the reserve also work closely with the local community to prevent illegal fishing and promote coastal cleansing along with local education campaigns on how to protect the area.

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Ambua Lodge, Tari, Papua New Guinea

The cosy lodges at Ambua enjoy spectacular views over the forests of the Southern Highlands and traditional Huli villages. Recipient of the Pacific Asia Travel Association's "Pacific Heritage Award", the lodge trains and employs staff from local clans and gets all its electricity from a small hydro-powered generator located on a stream in the grounds.

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Lankayan Island Resort, Sabah, Borneo

The reefs surrounding this uninhabited island are superb for diving and snorkelling, and green hawksbill turtles lay eggs on its white sand beaches. The resort has a hatchery which protects the eggs so that they are not disturbed by humans or predators during the incubation period and also a state of the art hydroponic water treatment facility to ensure that used water and waste does not contaminate the sea. The tasteful wooden chalets are fan cooled rather than air-conditioned to conserve electricity.

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Social

Shinta Mani, Cambodia

This boutique hotel with pool and spa is an ideal place to unwind after sightseeing at Angkor. Guests can donate money to local funds for things such as fishing nets (\$35), school attire (\$12), or contribute towards the installation of water wells (\$85). The hotel also funds hospitality training for children at risk. Currently, students are on a nine month culinary course which will enable them to find permanent employment.

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Sarojin, Thailand

Whilst tsunami damage to the the Sarojin Resort at Khao Lak on Thailand's stunning west coast was minimal, the surrounding area was devastated. In the aftermath, the Sarojin kept on all its staff and set about helping to rebuild the area. Guests enjoying the very best of Thai hospitality in a truly idyllic hideaway can also be sure they are helping support the local economy's recovery via a Community Fund established by the resort, with 100% of the funds going to local projects in the area. One of these is the Pakarang Boat Yard, a vital lifeline for families of the fishing community.

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Karma Jimbaran, Bali

Karma Jimbaran's luxury villas dot a gentle hillside beside the blue waters of Jimbaran Bay, with world class architecture bringing elements of contemporary style together with traditional Bali-influenced design. 10% of all revenue raised by the resort is donated to local Karma charities to fund education, medical aid facilities and employment schemes.

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- 1 Sarojin Resort, Thailand
- 2 Shinta Mani, Cambodia
- 3 Ambua Lodge, Papua New Guinea
- 4 Karma Jimbaran, Bali
- 5 Students at the Shinta Mani Hospitality School, Siem Reap, Cambodia