

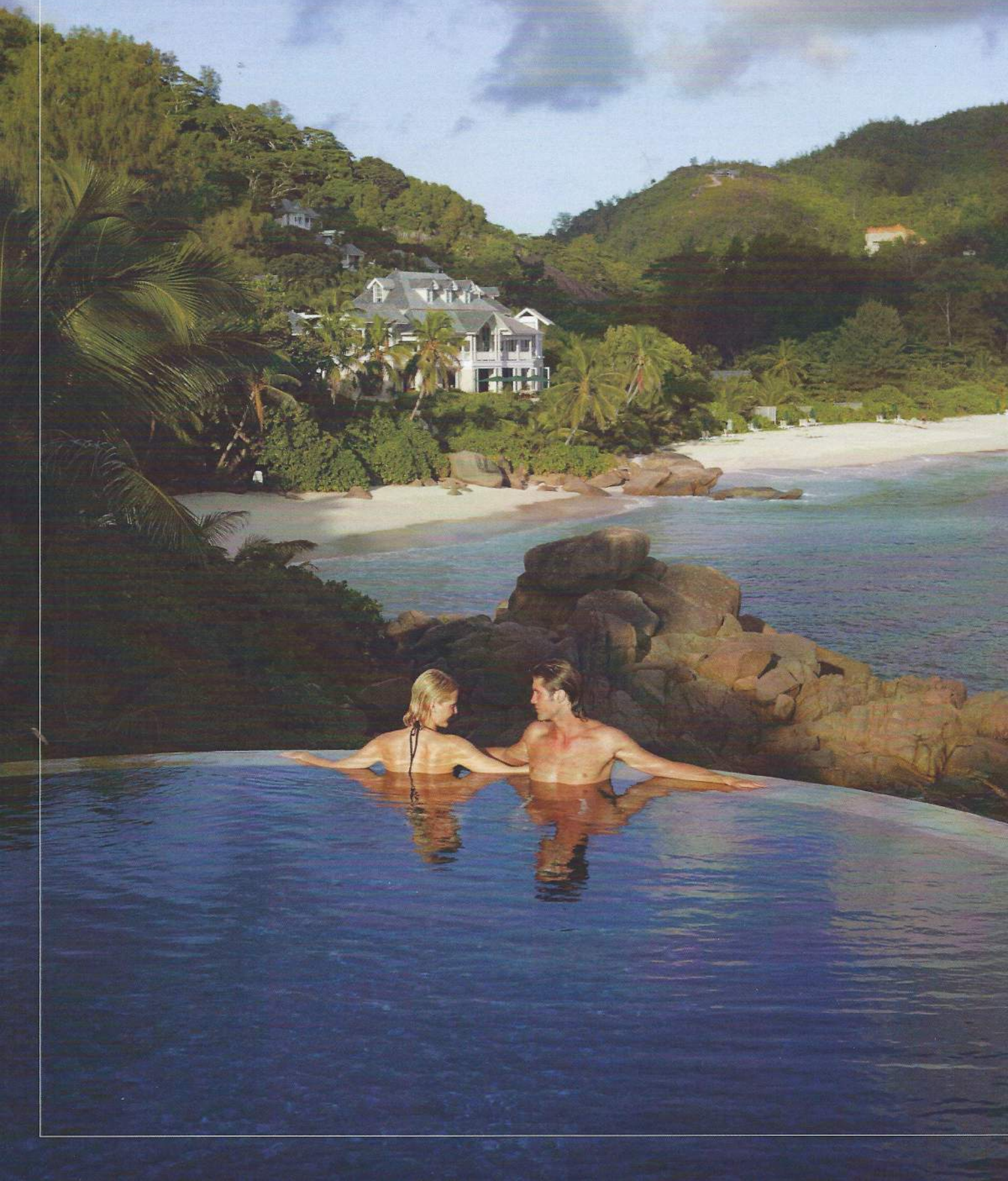


LIFE UNDER THE BANYAN TREE

The euphoria of luxury, the lucent points of unsurpassed encounters with exotic splendors, and memories for a lifetime await you in forty days of celebration.

By: GINA SAMAROTTO

ESCAPE





Above:
Admire the View at the Imperial Villa Pool at Angsana Balaclava in the Mauritius.

Opposite page:
Enjoy a Romantic Getaway at Banyan Tree Seychelles Presidential Villa on Mabe Island.

Banyan Tree Hotels & Resorts have a long history in delighting travelers with more than just luxury accommodations. From the raw beauty surrounding the African island of Mauritius to the exoticism of Thailand where the luxury brand's flagship Phuket resort boasts service that's as splendid as the tropical views, Banyan has spent two decades delivering bespoke experiences to their worldwide guests.

In celebration of their twentieth anniversary Banyan has, in collaboration with Angsana, their modernly opulent sister; curated a global adventure intended to showcase the sublime qualities of twenty of their most fascinating destinations – all wrapped into one unforgettable forty-day foray aptly entitled, "Around the World in Twenty Ways."

"This year represents an important milestone for Banyan Tree and we wanted to offer our guests a unique experience as befits the occasion" explains Davis Spooner, Vice

President of Sales and Marketing for Banyan Tree Hotels and Resorts. "This trip combines twenty highlight experiences from across the portfolio that, while each unique in their own right, come together with a result that is nothing short of extraordinary."

The forty-day excursion begins at the Banyan Tree Seychelles where chefs invite guests to help prepare a masterpiece meal created using ingredients from lush, on-site organic farms. From there, visitors continue through Mauritius and the Angsana Balaclava, then on to the Maldives where the wonders of the Banyan Tree Vabbinfaru and her sister resort, the Angsana Ihuru, stand ready to welcome. Here, guests spend their days soaring above the Maldives' mountains to take in the landscape from the air aboard a chartered sightseeing flight, set sail aboard the spectacular Banyan Velaa to discover the exquisite landscape of the Maldives from an ocean vantage, and frolic with sea turtles in an experience led by preeminent scientists from the internationally renowned Turtle Head Start Program.



*Above:
Banyan Tree Ras Al Khaimah
Beach Reception in UAE.*

*Opposite, Clockwise from left:
Set sail on the Banyan Velaa in
the Maldives; Enjoy Dinner at
Banyan's Signature Restaurant
Saffron and Heal at Angsana
Tengchong's Hot Springs Pool
in China.*

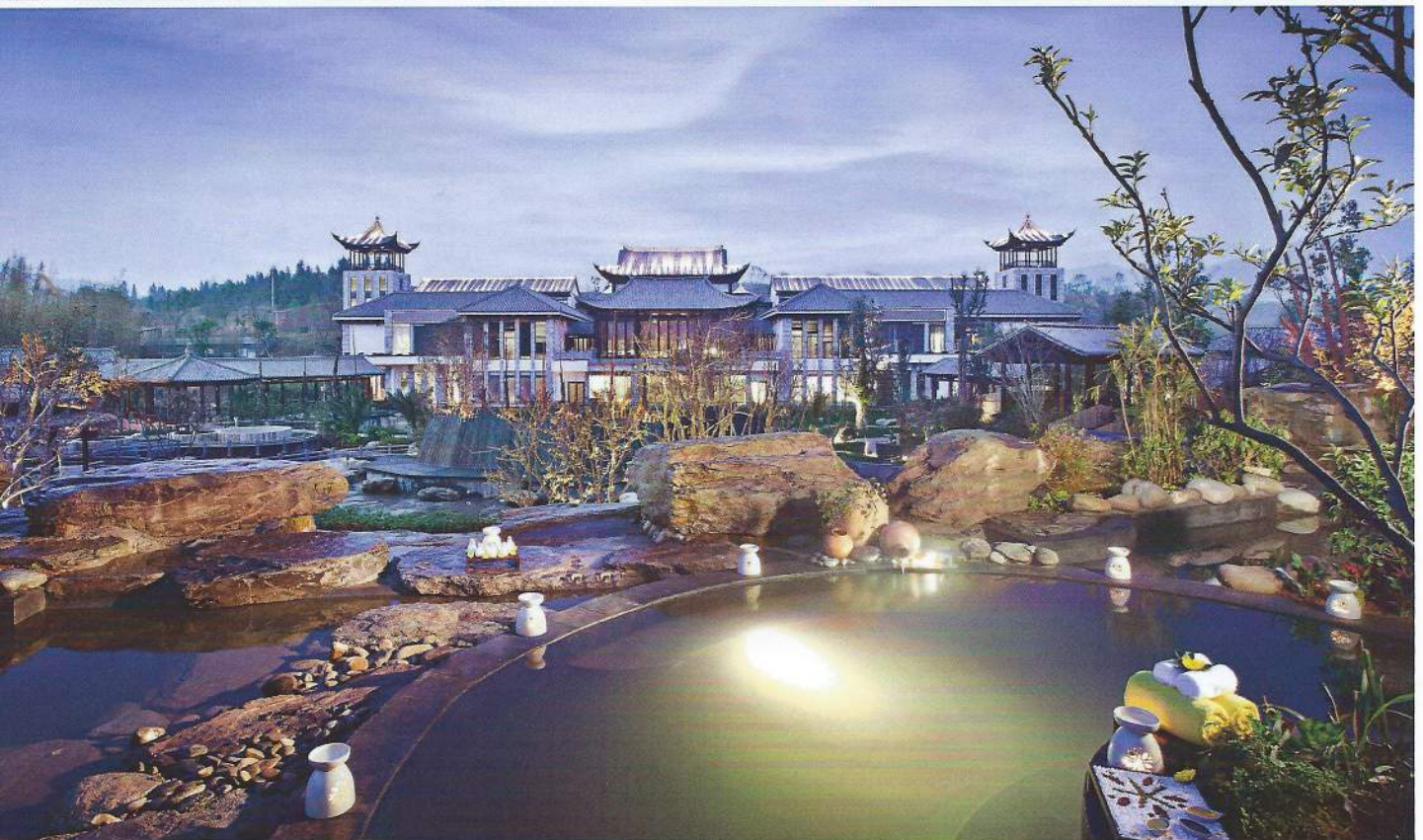
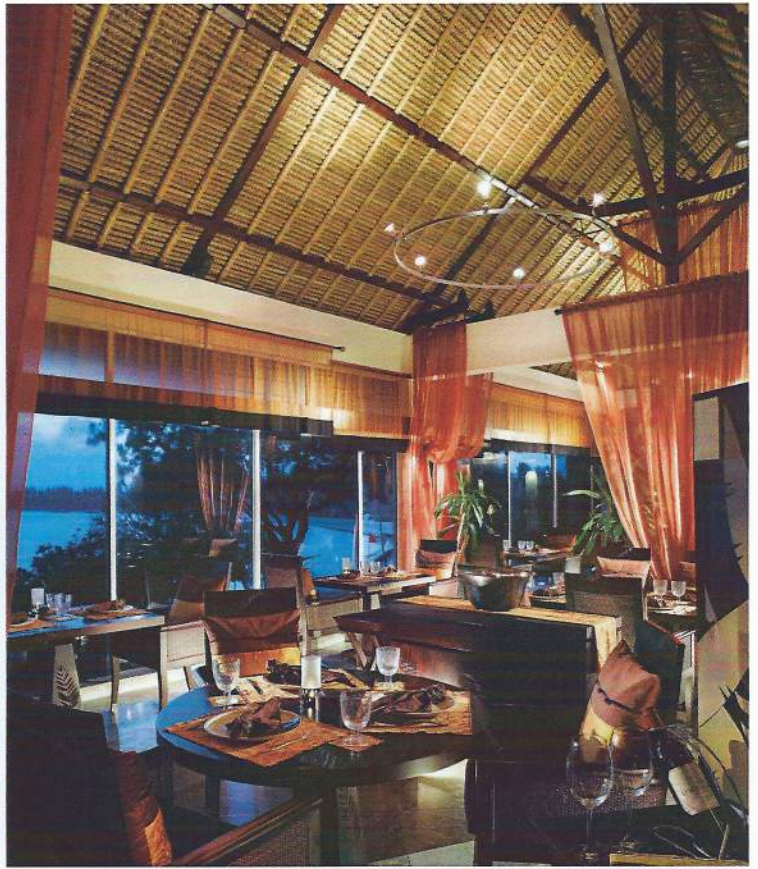
Next, exotic shores fade to dramatic deserts as guests arrive to the United Arab Emirates. Home to the Banyan Tree Ras Al Khaimah Beach, just an hour's drive from Dubai, and the Banyan Tree Al Wadi, the hotels and their romantic location are ready to enchant. In Al Wadi, guests take to the desert to experience the ancient, elegant sport of falconry. Offered through a two-day course, the experience is designed to introduce novice falconers to the art of hooding and handling these majestic birds of prey. At Ras Al Khaimah Beach, guests have their toes in a different kind of sand as they begin to master the finer points of pearl farming. From the air to the sea, the experiences planned for Banyan's guests in the United Arab Emirates promise to provide thrilling days and elegant, Arabian nights.

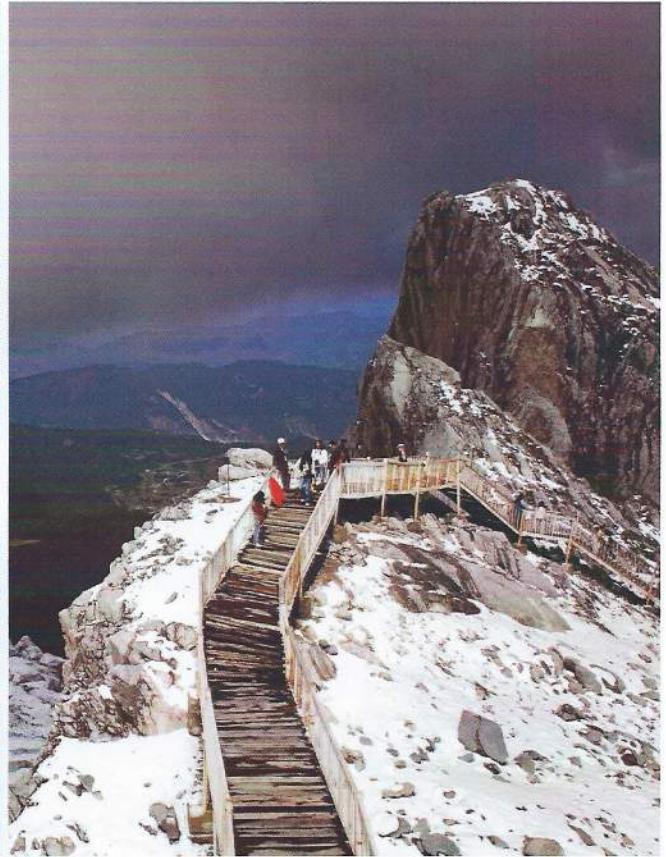
China welcomes her guests next, as travelers are invited to experience the UNESCO World Heritage sight, Lijiang. Known as Asia's famed "Venice of the Orient", Lijiang offers entre to natural wonders including Tiger Leaping Gorge and Jade

Dragon Snow Mountain. From Lijiang, it's off to Beibei in the foothills of the Jinyun Mountains and Tengchong with her curative hot springs. Throughout each step of the journey, hospitality and luxury are paramount. Everlasting memories are formed at every turn... and guests are just halfway through their remarkable adventure.

The lands of Vietnam and Indonesia are ripe for discovery and the next destinations 'Around the World' guests may anticipate. The Banyan Tree Lang Co and the Angsana Lang Co serve as the Vietnamese homes away from home on this portion of the adventure. Here, travelers have the charm of more UNESCO sites to explore as Hoi An, Hue or My Son unveils themselves through private tours. In Indonesia, just a forty-five minute ferry ride from Singapore, the Banyan Tree Bintan offers pristine beaches and breathtaking views of the South China Sea.

Laos and the Maison Souvannaphoum, South Korea and the Banyan Tree Club, and Spa in Seoul and the inimitable protean beauty that





*Above:
Enjoy a variety of watersports
including Jetskiing at Banyan
Tree Bintan in Indonesia and
A Once-in-a-Lifetime Trek
through Jade Snow Mountain
in Lijiang.*

is Bali and the Banyan Tree Ungasan are next in the stunning lineup before adventure takes guests where Banyan first began - Thailand.

In Bangkok, one of Asia's most coveted destinations, guests may look forward to meals that are every bit as sumptuous as the decadent suites and service.

"The menus are celebrations of fresh, local ingredients and personal culinary touches that have defined Banyan Tree through the years," explains Executive Chef Renu Homsombat of Banyan Tree's signature Saffron restaurant. "The cuisine interprets traditional Thai flavors with an innovative approach. Saffron's own creations emphasize the preservation of tastes inspired by the customs and cultures of Thailand, through the use of indigenous herbs and spices."

From Bangkok to Samui and, finally, Phuket where the Banyan Tree Spa Sanctuary and the Banyan Tree Phuket, the brand's flagship property, are ready to bring the exquisite journey to a memorable close. At

the Banyan Tree Spa Sanctuary, ultimate relaxation soothes body and soul through a series of treatments incorporating hydrotherapies, facials, and massages. At the incomparable Banyan Tree Phuket, guests may stay in one of the exclusive Double Pool Villas, featuring two pools, outdoor jet-pool, and spacious poolside terrace, as well as a personal concierge to ensure their every need is anticipated with discreet, elegant service.

Pricing for the forty-day journey begins at \$50,000 per couple and includes transportation between the twenty destinations throughout Africa and Asia, as well as the exclusive, signature experiences meticulously chosen for guests to experience at each location.

For guests choosing to travel privately from destination to destination, a Banyan Tree concierge will assist in making the arrangements necessary to coordinate flight plans and ensure all aviation travel details are seen to.