

BEACHES & ISLANDS SPECIAL ISSUE

TRAVEL+ LEISURE

SOUTHEAST ASIA

JULY 2011

FAB FIJI FINDS

15 NEW WAYS TO
EXPLORE, ENJOY

Indonesia

Jakarta quick
getaway guide

PLEASURES OF PENANG

T+L's ultimate trip
to George Town

HAINAN

ITALY

VIETNAM

BANGKOK

2.5
ISLANDS
WE UNEARTH
SECLUDED
SECRET SPOTS

DIVE NOW!

MUST-READ
BASICS FOR
BEGINNERS

SENTOSA

Five hot, new
culinary classics

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FOUR RESORTS, FOUR WAYS. HERE, WE PICK FOUR STANDOUT NEW ISLAND STAYS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. **BY LIANG XINYI**

FOR DESIGN ADDICTS

Casa de La Flora | Khao Lak, Thailand
Owner Sompong Deswiphet, together with Bangkok-based VuLab Architects, brings ultra-modern design to the Andaman coastline with this angular, low-slung resort. The 36 slate-gray pool villas are Brutalist cubes nestled among manicured greenery; the four-room spa's wood-and-cement interior looks like a cross between a Swedish log cabin and a space cabin. 67/213 Moo 5, Khao Khak, Takapa, Phang Nga 66-76/429-999; casadelaflores.com; doubles from \$115,309.



FOR CASTAWAY WANNABES

Pulau Jojo Private Island Retreat | Riau Archipelago, Indonesia
A 25-minute speedboat ride from Bintan takes you to this shipping magnate's private residence turned cyberbaric escape. Hide away in one of eight thatched-roof villas, or "Palaces": the expansive interiors boast teakwood furniture, four-poster beds draped in gauzy fabric, and vintage objects d'art collected by the globe-trotting Hong Kong-based owners. With a tear-shaped pool, an indulgent spa and a 43-meter luxury

GREAT ESCAPES

Clockwise from top left: Rustic luxe at Pulau Jojo Private Island Retreat, in Indonesia; Casa de La Flora's glass-and-concrete pool villas; Mövenpick Heritage Hotel Sentosa, designed by Japanese firm Super Potato; a room at the Anantara Mui Ne Resort & Spa, in Vietnam.



FOR HERITAGE FANS

Mövenpick Heritage Hotel Sentosa | Singapore
Historic charm underpins Mövenpick's sleek Singapore debut, overseen by hip Japanese design firm Super Potato. Two parallel structures embody old and new: the sea-facing 105-room Contemporary wing is a modern steel-and-glass box, while behind it, the colonial Heritage wing—a 1940s British army barracks with terracotta roofing—lends the property character. In the latter, 64 minimalist, comfortable guest rooms are set to open at the end of this year. Watch this space. 23 Beach View Terrace; 65 6638-3388; movenpick-sentosa.com; doubles from \$5200.

FOR SERENITY SEEKERS

Anantara Mui Ne Resort & Spa | Phan Thiet, Vietnam
Fresh from an Anantara makeover, this idyllic coastal getaway reopens this month with 89 sumptuous guest rooms (oasis beds, local artwork, exposed beams) and a stylish beachside restaurant helmed by Alain Ducasse-trained Vietnamese chef Alain Nguyen. Don't miss a dip in the infinity pool overlooking the coral-reef South China Sea. Khu Pho L, Nguyen Dinh Chieu St.; 84-62 740-8888; anantara.com/mui-ne; doubles from US\$260. +

