

For Immediate Release

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Phuket, Thailand

Laguna Phuket Celebrates 20th Anniversary

Laguna Phuket, Asia's finest destination resort, is celebrating 20 years of success. Owing this achievement to its outstanding commitment to provide the highest standard of hospitality to its guests, Laguna Phuket has grown into a national tourist treasure and is internationally respected.

Turning the clock back beyond the last 20 years, the Bang Tao Bay area was a barren, abandoned tin mine that was deemed so toxic that development was unthinkable and sustainable vegetation growth was a laughable notion.

With a combination of brave foresight, perseverance, a great deal of environmental care and approximately USD200 million (then Phuket's largest ever single investment), Laguna Phuket was born, with the opening of the Dusit Laguna Resort, on that same ravaged landscape as Asia's first integrated resort in 1987.

Today, the lush development spans six resorts, comprising the Banyan Tree Phuket, Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket, Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket, Laguna Beach Resort, Allamanda Laguna Phuket and Laguna Holiday Club Resort. It also includes residences and townhomes, an 18-hole golf course, spas, wedding chapel and shopping village. At 20, Laguna Phuket is still growing and expanding, with more innovative projects in the pipeline.

"It gives me tremendous satisfaction to see the fruits of our labour blossom into the lush tropical paradise it is today and to see how, together with my colleagues, we have preserved the rich cultural heritage unique to Thailand, imparting the warm hospitality and romance to all who we have had the privilege of sharing this experience with," said Ho Kwon Ping, Chairman of Laguna Resorts & Hotels Plc. "This transformation in part is thanks to our business partners and friends who supported and encouraged us along the way."

To commemorate this milestone, Laguna Phuket will donate THB 910,000 to the Phuket Special School. The Phuket Special School provides educational opportunities to mentally and physically handicapped children, providing learning and teaching in a way to make them as self-dependent as possible. The donation by Laguna Phuket will help support the construction of a skill development playground specifically for autistic and mentally challenged children at the school.

Laguna Phuket has planned special celebrations to take place during the last weekend of September. Business partners and friends of Laguna Phuket will be attending an invitation-only gala dinner followed by a spectacular show of fireworks on the evening of Saturday 29 September. For the thousands of staff who have built Laguna Phuket to what it is today, there will be a "We Are Family" Fun Fair & Concert the following day with leading Thai pop stars performing live.

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Note to the Editor

Laguna Phuket is Asia's finest destination resort, a collection of deluxe hotels: Banyan Tree Phuket, Dusit Laguna Resort, Laguna Beach Resort, Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket and Allamanda Laguna Phuket, which all share 600 acres of tropical parkland and three kilometres of beach frontage with the Laguna Phuket Golf Club, Canal Shopping Village, Banyan Tree Spa, four Angsana Spas, Laguna Wedding Chapel and Quest Laguna Phuket Adventure, a leading corporate training and outdoor recreation facility.



Laguna Phuket—Across the Years

1983-1987	Laguna Phuket site created from abandoned tin mine.
1987	Dusit Laguna Resort opened.
1991	Laguna Beach Resort opened. Laguna Service Company established.
1992	Sheraton Grande Laguna Phuket opened. Laguna Phuket Golf Club opened. Original Laguna Childcare Centre established. Laguna Phuket Foundation for Education established. Laguna Property launched Laguna Homes, 54 land plots for sale. Laguna Phuket won American Express & IHA Environmental Award.
1993	Thai Wah Resorts Development listed on the Stock Exchange of Thailand. Allamanda Laguna Phuket opened. Laguna Property launched Sheraton Island Villas & Allamanda Condominiums for sale. Inaugural Laguna Phuket Sea Turtle Conservation Ceremony.
1994	Banyan Tree Phuket opened. Quest Laguna Phuket Adventure opened. Canal Village Laguna Shopping Centre opened. Inaugural Laguna Phuket Triathlon. The teals in Laguna Phuket lagoon
1996	First Laguna Phuket Children's day fun fair. Camp Laguna opened.
1997	Laguna Property launched Banyan Tree Two-bedroom Pool Villas for sale.
1998	Company name changed from Thai Wah Resorts Development to Laguna Resorts & Hotels Plc. Laguna Holiday Club opened, previously known as Allamanda Vacation Club.
1999	First Angsana Spa opened at Dusit Laguna Resort.
2000-2003	Laguna Phuket won Best Tourist Resort Accommodation award from TAT.
2001	Banyan Tree Spa Academy opened New school for Laguna Childcare Centre opened. Computer Training Centre opened
2002	First Laguna Loy Krathong Festival.
2003	Laguna Phuket Childcare Centre won the best childcare centre award for eleventh region from the Ministry of Public Health (The centre was acknowledged as one of the twelve best childcare centres in Thailand).
2001-2004	Laguna Property launched Laguna Residences and Laguna Townhomes for sale.
2005	Phuket Tsunami Recovery Fund established Laguna Wedding Chapel opened.
2006	Laguna Holiday Club Phuket Resort opened. Laguna Property launched Laguna Village, Banyan Tree DoublePool Villas and Dusit Laguna Villas for sale. Inaugural Laguna Phuket International Marathon.
2007	Laguna Phuket Community English Language Centre opened.