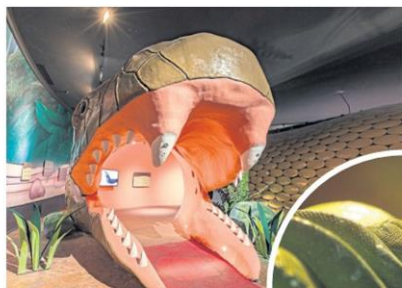


SOCIAL SCENE



ONLINE CAMPAIGN: Nopparat Maythaveekulchai, president of Thailand Convention & Exhibition Bureau, together with Yuthasak Supasorn, governor of the Tourism Authority of Thailand, recently launched the latest online campaign to promote company outings and CSR trips at local communities under 'Meet in the Village #bestcompanyoutingever' at The Ballroom, Queen Sirikit National Convention Center. From left, Verapong Chaiperm, governor of Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand; Mr Nopparat; Mr Yuthasak; Dr Somporn Suebthawilkul, managing director of Dhipaya Insurance; Gen Wuttinun Leelayudth, chief adviser of Village to the World project; Apirom Sukprasert, senior executive vice-president of the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Co-operatives; Nawamin Prasopnet, managing director of Mono Broadcast; and Sakchai Pattaraprechakul, president of NCCManagement Group.

Send pictures to life.social@bangkokpost.co.th.

TRAVEL TITBITS ■ KARNJANA KARNJANATAWE**Siam Serpentarium.****Fun with snakes**

Siam Serpentarium has been opened for public visits after exclusively being opened for Chinese group tours for a year.

Owned and operated by Siam Park Recreation, Siam Serpentarium is a modern edutainment and museum where visitors can learn many things about snakes and have fun, said the company's managing director Thanayuth Thongchindavong.

The centre is located on a 15 rai plot of land on Luang Phaeng Road in Lat Krabang district, about 13km east of Suvarnabhumi International Airport.

The museum comprises three zones.

First is the "Immersive Snake Museum" where visitors can venture through an interactive forest and learn the nature of snakes. Next is "Snake Planet" where visitors will see about 50

types of snakes from around the world, ranging from the smallest to anaconda as well as rare species such as golden cobra and the colourful ball python.

The last zone is "Naka Theatre", which offers various performances, including snake shows and dancing performances. The theatre can accommodate up to 400 people.

Also provided are a food court, a souvenir shops and outdoor playground for kids.

Siam Serpentarium is open daily from 9am to 5.30pm. The entrance fees are 350 baht for Thai

adults and expats with work permit and 150 baht for kids having height between 90-135cm. There is no entrance fee for senior citizens and children below 90cm.

Until Nov 30, Siam Serpentarium offers an entrance fee exemption for Thai visitors.

Visit www.siamserpentarium.com.

Meet in the village

The Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau (TCEB) has joined hands with nine leading companies and organisations to launch an online vote campaign to promote company outings in local villages throughout the nation.

Called "Meet In The Village", the campaign has invited 10 executives to be CEO

Village Ambassadors for 10 villages and joined hands with student teams from five universities including Assumption University, Bangkok University, Dhurakij Pundit University, Rangsit University and Sripatum University to promote those communities.

The student teams produced video clips, blogs and campaigns through social media, providing travelling activities including programmes for Corporate Social Responsibility.

The villages include Ban Tham Suea homestay in Phetchaburi where TCEB president Nopparat Maythaveekulchai is named CEO village ambassador; Ban Ku Ka Sing in Roi Et (Tourism Authority of Thailand governor Yuthasak Supasorn); Ban Rai Kong Khing in Chiang Mai (Thai AirAsia CEO Tassapon Bijleveld), Ban Rim Khlong Homestay in Samut Songkhram (Dhipaya Insurance managing director Somporn Suebthawilkul), Mueang Kao Sukhothai Village in Sukhothai (Bangkok Airways president Capt Puttipong Prasarttong-Osoth).

Next is Phra Bat Huai Tom Village in Lamphun (Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand CEO Verapong Chaiperm); Koh Lone Rawai in Phuket (Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Co-operatives senior executive vice-president Apirom Sukprasert); Phuthai Khok Kong Village in Kalasin (N.C.C. Management Group President Sakchai Pattarapreechakul);

Lee Let village in Surat Thani (Mono Broadcast Company managing director Nawamin Prasopnet); and Ban Dong Yen village in Suphan Buri (Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters deputy supreme commander Gen Wuttinun Leelayudth).

The online voting campaign will last until Oct 25. The winning team is the one who can generate the highest number of Views, Likes and Shares.

The winning team will receive 100,000 baht cash prize, the first and second runners-up will receive 70,000 baht and 50,000 baht prizes. There will also be a complimentary award with 10,000 baht cash.

Visit www.meetinthevillage.com.

Airlines update

Australia's national carrier Qantas has joined hands with Airbnb to offer Qantas Points for its frequent flyer members when they book Airbnb accommodation through qantas.com.

The partnership marks the first time Airbnb has worked with airlines. This is the next step in Qantas' partnerships with innovative digital and technology businesses, according to the airline CEO Alan Joyce.

"We know many of our customers are just as likely to arrange an Airbnb as they are to book a hotel, and we wanted to recognise and reward them for that," Joyce said.

• Airbnb offers 2.5 million accommodation listing across 191 countries while Qantas has 11.4 million royalty members.

• To celebrate the new partnership, Qantas and Airbnb offer lucky prizes for the airline members who book an Airbnb via qantas.com by the end of October.

• Visit www.qantas.com/stay.

Hotels update

• Minor Hotels Group will rebrand Pattaya Marriott Resort & Spa to the modern-looking Avani Pattaya Resort & Spa on Nov 1. The hotel was the group's first hotel purchased in 1978 when it was known as the Royal Garden Resort.

• The refurbishment will be completed around the end of this month. The hotel is located on a 35 rai plot of land. It features 298 rooms and suites, each has a private balcony or a terrace, five restaurants and bar, swimming pool with Jacuzzi, fitness centre, two tennis courts, spa, a ballroom which can accommodate up to 300 participants and five meeting rooms.

• Avani Pattaya will become the fourth Avani property in Thailand, following Avani Riverside Bangkok, Avani Khon Kaen and Avani Atrium Bangkok.

• Visit www.minorhotels.com/en/avani/pattaya.

• Email karnjanak@bangkokpost.co.th if you have any comments to share.