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A BEAUTIFUL MIND

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低調高雅
Humble Elegance

Upon stepping on a private yacht at the Sihanoukville pier in Cambodia,
my tranquility is found again.

隱世的寧靜，從柬埔寨Sihanoukville碼頭登上私家遊艇的一刻，已悄然開始。

By Natalia



Sunlight shimmers on the vast ocean, calling upon a natural beauty that shines brighter than any gem in the world. After a 30-minute journey by sea, I arrive at the secluded private island, Song Saa Resort. Actually, the property – which adds up to an area comparable to that of Hong Kong – includes two islands, Koh Ouen and Koh Bong; the former houses a private villa, spa and beach bar, to name but a few, while the latter is a restaurant on the ocean. When the yacht finally docked at the pier, I gave myself the best welcoming gift: the caress of the smooth sand under my bare feet.

Arriving at the villa, four to five hosts were already waiting. The island of only 20-plus villas is operated by up to a staff of 150, making the tourist-to-host ratio 1:1.5, a number comparable to the service level on prestigious cruises or yachts such as Oceania or Sea Dream. Amidst the surrounding virgin forests, tropical coral reefs, white beaches and green canopies, you become one with nature on these islands; when lying in the scenic infinite pool and listening to the nearby waves, you can taste the tranquility of when the skies, the seas and man become one. On the private island are rainforests for the adventurous and boundless seas for the daring, while the resort itself is spotted with restaurants ranging from ones directly on the ocean, within the comfort of your room to, basically, anywhere you



陽光灑在大海上，那份自然而生的璀璨比任何寶石更叫人心動。三十分鐘的航程，便抵達與繁囂隔絕的私人島嶼Song Saa Resort。正確來說，包含了兩個島 – Koh Ouen 和 Koh Bong，面積等同香港，一個島設有獨立別墅、Spa、沙灘酒吧等；另一個島則是

wish for the hosts to lay an impromptu picnic under blue skies and against white beaches.

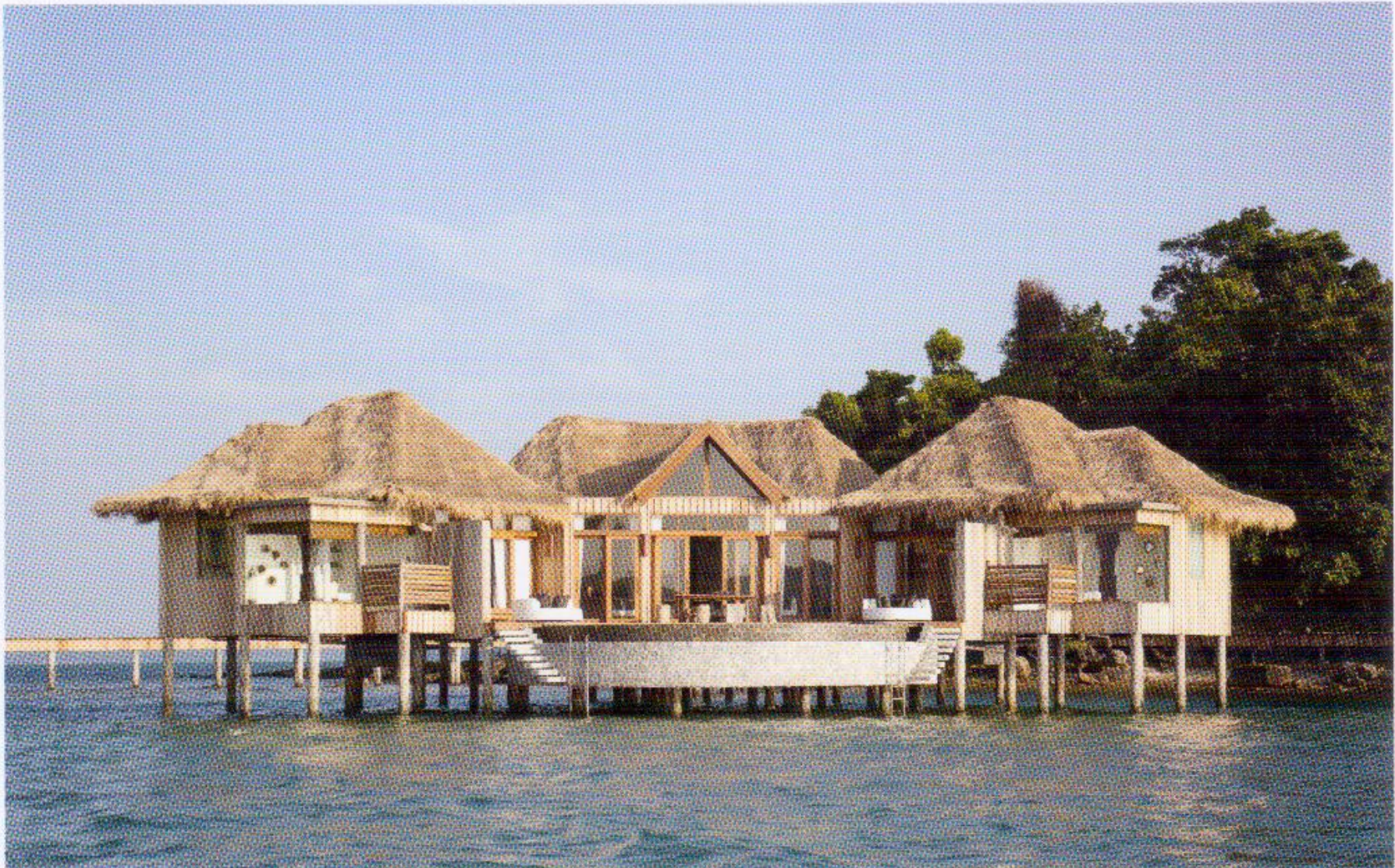
With love from Song Saa “Song Saa” translates to love in the local language and alludes to a charitable heart for the poor and respect for nature. Husband Rory Hunter – from the advertising industry – and interior designer and wife Melita Hunter – are the founders and the spiritual core behind the project. When touring the Thai oceans in 2005, they discovered these untainted islands; they then married on their new-found gems and lived here for awhile, having absolutely fallen in love with the tropical rainforests, natural beaches, its the wild buffalos and the enthusiastic inhabitants in the nearby community. Determined to purchase the islands, they waited three years for the official approval, during which they hired local women to do some cleanup work.

With true understanding came real determination. The Hunter couple was set on making a humble, prestigious yet environmentally friendly and sustainable resort; so they established an environmental team to ensure that nature is never tainted during construction and operation. To protect aquatic life, for example, fishing is prohibited 200m around the hotel; they’ve also employed and trained local people in hopes

海上餐廳。遊艇停泊在碼頭後，送給自己最佳的見面禮就是脫掉鞋子，赤腳感受幼沙的撫摸。

步入別墅，已有45人恭候賓客。島上只有20多間獨立別墅，員工數目高達150人，旅客和員工比例是1:1.5，可以媲美歐洲精品遊輪或遊艇如Oceania和Sea





that new employment opportunities will improve their way of life; as well, the Hunters have also begun a Song Saa Foundation for conservation, education and research and development work, all in hopes to find a balance between offering the services of a high-end resort while adhering to sustainable and environmental protocols.

In the age of excess, luxury isn't hard to get; what is truly rare is a return to basics, to nature. In Song Saa, you can feel the peace only nature can offer and can really learn how to respect what city-goers have began to forget.



Dream的服務水平。人在這裡，會感受到自己融入在大自然內，島上大部分地方仍是處女雨林，熱帶珊瑚礁、白色沙灘和綠洲。躺在面向大海的無邊泳池，聽著潮水拍岸聲，會感覺一份前所未有的天、海、人連成一線的安寧和平和。私人島嶼上，有無盡雨林探索，也有無邊大海。島上隨處都是用餐地點，海上的餐廳、舒適的房間，興之所至，食慾被觸動的一刻，可以請員工就地擺放餐桌。在藍海白沙之間，看著海天一色，品嚐美食。

從愛到大愛。Song Saa 為當地語言解作愛心。背後更包含一顆扶貧慈善心和對大自然的敬意。創辦人是一對澳洲夫婦 Rory Hunter 和 Melita Hunter。Rory 是廣告人，Melita 則是室內設計師，是整個項目的幕後靈魂人物。2005年，他們沿遊泰國海岸線時，無意發現這這兩個完全未經開發的島嶼，簡直是塊天然瑰寶，婚後更在島上生活了一段時間，自此更加迷戀熱帶雨林、天然海灘、島上的水牛和單純熱情的社區。決意買下島嶼後，他們一共用了三年時間等待申請獲批。等待的日子，他們聘用當地婦女一起進行島上的清潔工作。

深入了解，造就宏大願景－他倆立志創建一個低調、尊貴但環保和幫助發展社區的度假地方，並成立一個保育團隊，務求在建設和經營時，不要破壞原來生態。為了保護海洋生物，酒店規定沿島200米範圍是不能釣魚的。此外，他們更聘用和培訓當地社區的居民，希望透過提供工作機會來改善他們的生活，以及成立Song Saa Foundation，涵蓋保育、教育和研究的工作。建設高貴的度假勝地之餘，也顧及可持續發展和保護生態環境。

繁華世代，金雕玉砌的奢侈不難求，反而返回原本，接觸大自然，才更珍貴。這裡，你可以用心享受天然純樸的寧靜；也可以用心尊重大自然。■