

**21** of the best  
new products  
for golfers

Ultra-potent  
liquors you'll  
want to try

**Hybrid Cars**  
The latest luxury models  
could make you a believer

**GOLD  
MEDAL  
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BEST TRAVEL  
COVERAGE  
Lowell Thomas  
Travel Journalism  
Competition

# PRIVATE Clubs

A C C E S S   T H E   L U X E   L I F E

SPRING 2015

## L.A.

BIG CHANGES DOWNTOWN SPARK  
A BOOMING CULINARY SCENE

**WHERE TO GO, WHAT TO EAT**

*plus...*

An Irish Castle's Royal Makeover

SEVEN 'WOW' CARIBBEAN RESORTS

Palm Springs Is Coming Back

WHY GO TO COLOMBIA NOW

Newest Southeast Asia Cruises



A full-page background image of a tropical beach. In the foreground, a wooden pier or walkway extends from the right side into the turquoise water. In the middle ground, a dense line of palm trees stands on a white sandy beach. In the background, a small building with a thatched roof is visible on the right, and a white sailboat is partially visible in the upper right corner. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

***Bonus***/Travel/

# *Walking* ON WATER

The world's most exclusive and paradisiacal accommodation – the **overwater bungalow** – is reaching new frontiers worldwide. The secret recipe of design-savvy villas floating over ocean blues has proved infectious, spreading beyond the cradles of overwater civilization, the Maldives and French Polynesia, to multiple coastlines of Southeast Asia, and even making waves closer to home in reinterpreted form. Not to be outshined, the Maldives continues to wow with its latest haute showstoppers in undiscovered outer islands, while French Polynesia rests on the laurels of its legendary reputation with no new construction to report. Here, we show you some of the latest and greatest incarnations of heaven on earth.

BY PAUL RUBIO



KOH RONG ARCHIPELAGO, CAMBODIA

## Song Saa Private Island

**THE BUZZ:** Along Cambodia's unspoiled and lesser-known southern frontier, Song Saa Private Island opens up a brave new world for the luxury traveler, showcasing a national treasure beyond the land-locked ancient temples of Angkor. A brainchild of idealism and sustainability by husband and wife team Rory and Melita Hunter, this five-star private island in the Gulf of Thailand is as much about maximum luxury as it is human growth and development for local communities. All of Song Saa's 28 ocean-chic villas are characterized by **striking Asian minimalism** that feels at once uber-glamorous yet unfussy; 19 rest on the island proper, while the other nine emerge as heavenly overwater bungalows. Through the hotel's efforts, former dreams of a protected marine reserve, wastewater management for local communities, and environmental management have become reality. Overall, Cambodia's freshman foray into the world of overwater bungalows stands on par with the greats of the Maldives and French Polynesia. And in a subindustry that walks on water, that says a lot.

**REACHING PARADISE:** Fly to Phnom Penh, then transfer by road to Sihanoukville Port (about 3-1/2 hours). Alternatively, fly to Siem Reap and connect to Sihanoukville International Airport. Song Saa is a 35-minute speedboat ride from Sihanoukville.

**PRICE TAG:** From \$1,415 per night

**INFO:** [songsaa.com](http://songsaa.com)



SUNYA THADATHANAWONG (EXTERIOR)



