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CAMBODIA

Song Saa Private Island



PHOTOS: SONG SAA PRIVATE ISLAND

Song Saa Private Island, billed as the only private island resort in Cambodia, was founded three years ago and has received several accolades.

It was listed among lifestyle magazine Tatler's 101 Best Hotels in the World in 2013 and was also named as one of the Best Hotels in the World by travel guide Fodor's last year.

The resort is spread over two islands – one is 3.5ha wide and the other 5ha wide – in the Koh Rong Archipelago.

To get there from Phnom Penh Airport, take a three-and-a-half-hour car transfer provided by the private island to Sihanoukville Port. From there, a speedboat will take guests to the private island in 30 minutes.



Click for map
of Song Saa
Private Island.





The resort's design is inspired by Cambodian fishing villages.

Accommodation: 27 villas, with designs inspired by Cambodian fishing villages, can accommodate up to 70 guests. For example, a one-bedroom jungle villa with pool is fully air-conditioned, with high-speed Internet, TV and hot water. It also has an outdoor shower, a private swimming pool and a sundeck.

Facilities: A restaurant and lounge bar that offers views of the sunset, seascapes and starry nights; a swimming pool, spa and wellness sanctuaries; a yoga and meditation centre on the shoreline.

Activities: Kayaking, scuba-diving, snorkelling, hiking, Khmer cooking lessons and visits to local fishing villages.

Rates: From US\$1,117 (S\$1,530) a night for a one-bedroom villa for two adults in low season.

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PRIVATE ISLAND GETAWAYS

The ultimate escape, a private island hosts just one plush resort for privacy and a sense of privilege.

In the past, private islands were the domain of the rich and famous. These days, these isles are more affordable and many are near Singapore. Travellers are lured by their luxury and absence of crowds. One such resort is the Laucala Island resort in Fiji (left).

Private islands, owned by an individual or corporation, are the business-class version of beach resorts, though they are more affordable than we think.

Find out where such getaways are and what you can do there.

Benson Ang