SONG SAA PRIVATE ISLAND

Breezy island luxury amid a bounty of nature's gifts, Cambodia's first private island resort nourishes body and soul in a lavishly relaxed and tranquil environment.

TEXT BY **SUSAN SHERMAN**

PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF **SONG SAA HOTELS AND RESORTS**

The Song Saa Resort in Cambodia spans the islands of Koh Ouen and Koh Bong, and is connected by a footbridge over a marine reserve that safeguards the islands' reefs and marine wildlife that includes turtles, seahorses and exotic species of tropical fish.



LEFT: The posh over-water Royal Villa accomodates two guests at $5,290 per night, and includes a personal chef and a dedicated "Guest Experience Ambassador." Beneath a thatched roof, the outdoor terrace is ideal for dining alfresco or relaxing around the private pool on plush daybeds.

Imagine a private island paradise with a seascape setting so enchanting and serene that the cares of city life fade from memory the moment you arrive. In Cambodia's Koh Rong Archipelago, just off the tranquil sapphire waters of the Gulf of Thailand, lie two pristine islands known locally as Song Saa – Khmer, "The Sweethearts." Set among them is the Song Saa Private Island, a luxurious resort dedicated to nurturing mind, body and soul in an intimate natural setting. Just a short ride from Cambodia's port of Sihanoukville, guests arrive by speedboat to experience this idyllic hideaway amid tropical reefs, majestic marine life, rainforests and white-sand beaches.

Owners and environmentalists Rory and Melita Hunter first journeyed to the Koh Rong Archipelago from New Zealand. Inspired by its stunning natural beauty, they set out to create Song Saa, Cambodia's first luxury resort dedicated to preserving the sustainability of the natural environment and to aiding the local economy.

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The perfect balance between natural beauty and understated luxury, Song Saa's over-water villas offer tranquil spaces set against breathtaking views of the turquoise sea. Guests can enjoy cocktails from their private deck while viewing a stunning sunset.



ABOVE: World-class dining is sublime in a restaurant surrounded by the sea, a space perfectly situated to enjoy alfresco dinners beneath magnificent sunsets and starry nights.

SONG SAA

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The hotel is surrounded by a 12-acre no fishing marine reserve and abundant natural plant life. Driftwood and recycled timber from old fishing boats help to shape the resort's bespoke furnishings and inviting architectural elements.

The 27 over-water, jungle and ocean-view thatched-roof villas, all outfitted with private infinity-edge pools, feature sophisticated open-air living spaces. Each spacious villa is meticulously designed with custom furnishings crafted by local artisans utilizing natural materials that reflect the colors and textures of Cambodia's traditional fishing villages. King-sized beds wrapped in plush Ploh linens and oversized baths convey an understated elegance.

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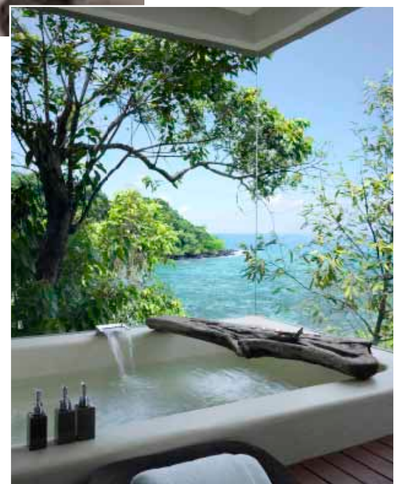
CRISP IN LUXURIOUS PLOH LINENS, THE ONE-BEDROOM OVER-WATER VILLA IS ELEGANT YET RELAXED. A JUNGLE VILLA, BELOW, RESTS HIGH ON A HILL OFFERING STUNNING VIEWS OF NATURE'S VIBRANT SEASCAPE FROM ITS BATH.

SONG SAA

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Dining at Song Saa is a sumptuous experience that celebrates authentic Cambodian tradition with unique menus that change daily from Thai to Khmer cuisines. Exciting and organically fresh, meals are prepared by a culinary team that is trained by the world's most renowned chefs and nutritionists, and with fresh seasonal fruits and vegetables grown locally in organic gardens.

Refreshed after a morning class of yoga, spend the day exploring the island's marine life, kayaking through undiscovered coves, rejuvenating at the Spa and Wellness Sanctuary or just lounging by your villa's private pool. For more information, please call +855 23 989 012 or visit www.songsaa.com.



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Owners and environmentalists Rory and Melita Hunter first journeyed to the Koh Rong Archipelago from their home in New Zealand. They were so inspired by its stunning natural beauty, that they decided to create Song Saa, Cambodia's first private island luxury resort dedicated to preserving the sustainability of the environment and to aiding the local economy. The hotel is surrounded by a 12-acre no fishing marine reserve and abundant natural plant life. Driftwood and recycled timber from older Cambodian fishing boats help shape the resort's bespoke furnishings and inviting architectural elements.

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SONG SAA

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The 27 over-water, jungle and ocean-view thatched-roof villas, all with private infinity pools, feature breezy, open-air living spaces. Each villa is meticulously designed with custom furnishings crafted by local artisans using natural materials that reflect the colors and textures of Cambodia's traditional fishing villages and luxurious King-sized beds wrapped in Ploh linens.

Dining at Song Saa is a sumptuous experience that celebrates authentic Cambodian tradition with menus that change daily from Thai to Khmer cuisine. Exciting and organically fresh meals are prepared by a culinary team that is trained by the world's most renowned chefs and nutritionists.

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WORLD-CLASS DINING IS SUBLIME IN A RESTAURANT SURROUNDED BY THE SEA, A SPACE THAT IS PERFECTLY POSITIONED FOR DINING ALFRESCO AMID MAGNIFICENT SUNSETS AND STARRY NIGHTS.





RIGHT: The posh over-water Royal Villa accomodates two guests at $5,290 per night, and includes a personal chef and dedicated "Guest Experience Ambassador." Beneath a thatched roof, the outdoor terrace is ideal for dining alfresco or relaxing around the private pool on plush daybeds.

FAR RIGHT: Striking the perfect balance between natural beauty and understated luxury, the over-water villas offer tranquil airy spaces set against breathtaking views of the turquoise sea. Guests can enjoy cocktails from their private deck while gazing at a stunning sunset.