

INTERPRETATIONS OF LUXURY TRAVEL

NOT ALL THAT GLITTERS IS GOLD IN LUXURY TRAVEL. SOMETIMES IT'S JUST A BREAK FROM ALL THE DEADLINES YOU MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE MET, AND THE LUXURIES OF BEING ABLE TO ENRICH THE BODY, MIND, AND SOUL IN TRAVEL.

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Depending on perspectives, luxury can mean catering to an upmarket audience, or simply having the luxury of space and time, and a chance to take a breather and relax. We learnt recently that Singapore-based Saakalya Travel is unique in the way that it provides these luxurious simplicities to busy professionals, away from the bustling and sometimes chaotic cities to some of the most beautiful and culturally-rich destinations in Southeast Asia.

The duration of the trips is kept short and hosted during the weekends so that they do not eat into the limited time of busy professionals, but yet sufficient in providing a deeply refreshing and rejuvenating experience. Luxury is what enriches us, be it physically, mentally or spiritually. Its value can be found in



something true and pure, whether that is attributing significance to the time and dedication spent on hand-crafting décor, as with the Saakalya Collection, or indulging in beautiful open spaces of scenery. The concept of luxury is a wholly personal perception.

Travel experiences at Saakalya are centred on somewhere new and something different. Bali is the current destination that Saakalya explores, with access to a richer variety of areas and opportunities built on the connections of Saakalya's managing director Alexandra Schmutterer. Locations are curated through the knowledge of locals working alongside Saakalya to embrace the concept of

holistic travel. Each trip only allows for up to a maximum of 12 people in order to maintain an exclusive and personal experience. The variety of experiences, planned around tranquil surroundings, has been designed to encourage new passions, such as arts, cooking, wine tasting (you may be surprised Bali does have a winery) or yoga taught by world renowned instructors. Guests will also stay in personal villas in a luxurious resort, maintaining the feeling of exclusivity and privacy.

In pursuit of more exclusive and unconventional destinations, works are also currently underway to create such experiences in Thailand.

