

# Robb Report

June 2017

robbreport.com.my

MALAYSIA



**BLACK ARTS**  
BOTTLED EMOTION  
AND ENIGMA

**SURF'S UP**  
HIGHLIGHTS FROM  
THE SINGAPORE  
YACHT SHOW



FEATURING  
Patek Philippe's  
Ref 5180/1R

**PLUS**  
AIRBUS H145  
SALONE  
DEL MOBILE  
OMEGA  
MOONWATCH  
MERCEDES-AMG  
GT S

## INSIDE OUT

REVEALING THE TREASURES  
OF BASELWORLD'S  
100TH EDITION



# NOTHING BUT BLUE SKIES AND WHITE SANDS

The Anam in Nha Trang brings a whole new level of luxury to Vietnam.

By SAM YEN

**C**larity. It's the word that springs to mind at The Anam. There is crispness in the views and a bracing brine as the wind rushes up from the sea to disperse around the resort's pathways and pavilions. Visitors to Vietnam generally head to its poles – the kinetic lights of Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City – but

dotted in-between is a coastline of brilliant gems. The Anam, which opened in April, is one of them.

The vision begins from the air. The approach to Cam Ranh International Airport is spectacular. As the plane descends, a vast stretch of white sand separated from the mainland by a lagoon comes into







The Anam's concept is to deliver an experience of the old Indochine era, which is reflected in its architecture, design and service standards.





view. With sunlight shimmering off the innumerable grains, you find yourself thinking, that's inviting.

The Anam rests on a slight rise, tumbling towards the ocean. The Deluxe Collection building and 12 double-storey villas command the back half, a perch that affords panoramic views fringed with palm trees. Two lawns bisect the lower half towards the beach, villas flanking the sides. This provides an uninterrupted view of the sea from the main pool. The villas are arranged in clusters around the lawns or the Lagoon pool. Clever landscaping – weighty bunches of bougainvillea or shady banana trees – yields privacy. With roofs of red tiles, dark wood beams and white structures, the villas have a colonial vibe; almost like an enclave of 19th-

## Frolic in the sand, swim in azure waters or jump on a jetski.

This and facing pages:  
the most stressful decision you would most likely make at The Anam is how to spend your day: feasting, resting in your villa or lazing by the pool.



century French noble officers, sequestering themselves from the tropical heat.

Frolic in the sand, swim in azure waters, jump on a jetski or greet the sunrise – the resort faces due east – in meditation. There is enough to keep the body occupied at the resort, even if an idling of the mind by one of the three pools seems an attractive alternative.

Beyond The Anam's muted sands, there is also much to do. The lively town of Nha Trang is close by. The Anam has a tour of local artists in gestation and there is also diving. Sailing Club Divers heads to Hon Mun island daily, where the underwater attractions are small. Literally. Clarity of visibility varies, but that allows divers to zoom in on the smallest details –

a green frogfish masquerading as a rock, the brilliant neon tendrils of unusually large nudibranchs and air bubbles trapped on the roof of a cave left by divers who came before.

Activity demands sustenance. At The Anam, that leads to Indochine. A careful selection of Vietnamese and international dishes leads the menu. This is also the setting for breakfast and once a week, an immense seafood barbecue dinner, where you'll gravitate to the pile of fresh lobsters. Assuage that

feasting guilt with a session at Sri Mara Spa, which offers treatments such as Balinese massages and Nepalese tea exfoliations.

Over evening cocktails, one guest confided that he was here for two weeks. He couldn't imagine a more perfect place to escape to from anxiety and pressure. And so, a resort that sets out to be a haven of serenity and service has achieved exactly that. Would he return again? "In a heartbeat."

[www.theanam.com](http://www.theanam.com)

~~~~~  
Would he return again?  
"In a heartbeat."  
~~~~~

