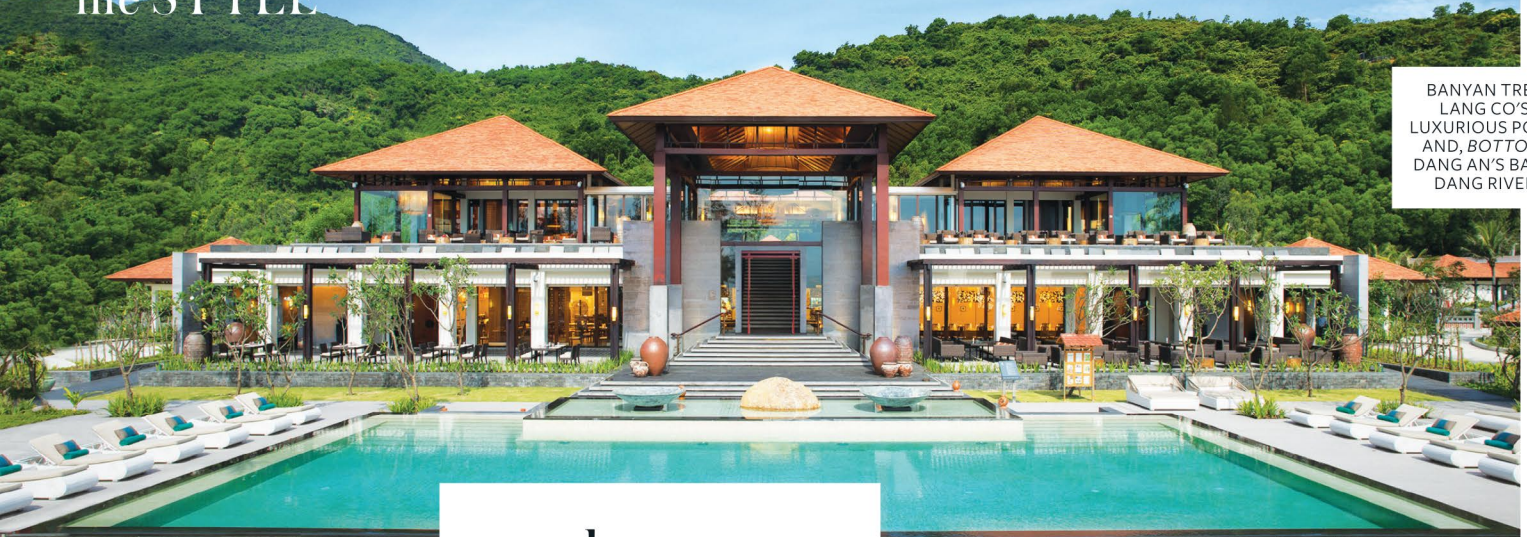


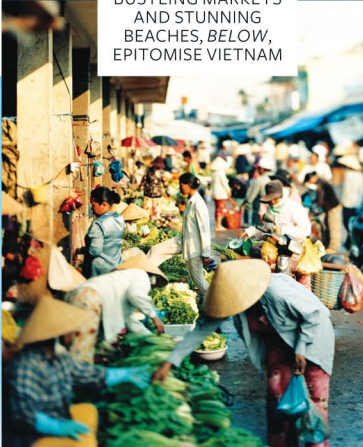
BANYAN TREE LANG CO'S LUXURIOUS POOL AND, BOTTOM, DANG AN'S BACH DANG RIVER



## da nang

My Vietnamese adventure ended in Da Nang. If you have any space left in your suitcase, this is the perfect stop off for last-minute gifts before you head home. I visited chocolatier Pheva to stock up on boxes of divine locally sourced chocolate. Beautifully packaged and available in unusual flavours including peanut, pistachio and, local favourite, black pepper, it turned out to be the ideal gift for pacifying envious friends back in the UK. A wander down Da Nang's white-sand beach and a final splash in the South China Sea used up the last of my energy, and I could feel my eyelids getting heavy as we approached Da Nang airport in the taxi, ready to fly home. A pre-flight glass of wine was enough to knock me out and I slept like a baby all the way back to the UK, no sleeping pills required. □ *A week's stay at Banyan Tree Lang Co starts from £1,899 per person, which includes transfers, return flights with Vietnam Airlines from Gatwick and B&B accommodation in a Lagoon Pool Villa. Book through Western & Oriental (020 7666 1234; wandotravel.com).*

EASTERN CHARM: DA NANG'S FISHING BOATS, ABOVE, BUSTLING MARKETS AND STUNNING BEACHES, BELOW, EPITOMISE VIETNAM



### TRAVEL ESSENTIALS

**Repel Tropical Strength Insect Repellent, £7.25, Boots (boots.com)**  
This contains 50 per cent DEET – an active ingredient guaranteed to protect against bites.

**In Transit No Traces Cleansing Pads, £17, This Works (beautybay.com)**  
Don't board without these rosewater-soaked pads. They clean and refresh tired skin without drying it out.

**Dry Remedy Moisturizing Treatment Masque, £24, Aveda (aveda.co.uk)**  
Heat + humidity = frazzled hair. The blend of conditioners and natural oils, like buriti, in this intensive masque help to tame frizz.

**Pureness Oil-Control Blotting Paper, £18, Shiseido (houseoffraser.co.uk)**  
To avoid an oily sheen, use this blotting paper to soak up excess oil.

“Discover high-quality tailors, cobblers, silk traders, artists, jewellers and potters selling their wares off the beaten track”



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