



หอการค้าไทย-อิตาลี
THAI - ITALIAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Volume No. X / Year 2023

INFORMA

BUSINESS MAGAZINE





หอการค้าไทย-อิตาลี
THAI - ITALIAN
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Christmas Gala Dinner

THU, 7 DEC

6.00 PM onwards

The Four Seasons Bangkok Hotel

Tickets 7,500+ THB per person



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45th
 Anniversary

A Message from the President

Dear TICC Members and Friends,

Buongiorno, and thank you for reading Informa Magazine Volume X.

Let me begin by extending a heartfelt welcome to all our readers as we are thrilled to present our newest edition of our magazine, featuring a range of valuable insights of business interactions between Italy and Thailand.

Alongside this you'll find the latest updates on the event by our Chamber that we are excited to share with you.

This October we proudly announce the inauguration of the EssilorLuxottica Factory and the grand opening of Vittoria's new carbon-neutral bicycle tyre facility in Bangkok.

Also, you will discover deep understanding from the articles about 'the 100 days of migration from Valtellina to Australia' and 'Explore the unparalleled charms of Krabi, Ao Nang, and the Islands' from our members.

Our October agenda at TICC is filled with captivating events, highlighted by the organization of the Travel Hashtag Bangkok Edition, a networking event

devoted to Italian destinations, and the celebration of World Pasta Day at The Food School in Bangkok, held in collaboration with Rustichella d'Abruzzo.

Furthermore, we proudly participated in the High-Level Dialogue on ASEAN-Italy Economic Relations at the Grand Hyatt Erawan in Bangkok, where distinguished speakers took the stage to share their insights on ASEAN Economic Relations.

TICC serves as the link connecting the dynamic economies of Thailand and Italy.

We hope that Informa Business Magazine serves as a source for stimulating creativity, bringing together innovators from various sectors, cultivating connections, fostering partnerships, exchanging valuable insights, and revealing prospective business possibilities.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude to each TICC member for your continued support. As we dig into the pages of Informa Magazine Volume X, I trust you will find inspiration and valuable insights.

Arrivederci,

Federico Cardini



INFORMA BUSINESS MAGAZINE

is produced by
 the Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce

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The Chamber

The Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce (TICC), founded in 1978, is an independent, private, non-profit organization of Italian and Thai businessmen and professionals, duly constituted and registered in accordance with legislative regulations in Thailand and fully recognized by the Ministry of Economic Development and International Cooperation in Italy.

The Chamber, with its headquarters in Bangkok (Thailand), is proud to host a wide network of companies and entrepreneurs from all around the world -mostly Italian and Thai businesses, which allow TICC to pursue its objectives of enhancing commercial cooperation between Italy and Thailand. The Chamber constantly organizes activities, meetings, seminars, missions, and networking events to facilitate the promotion of economic, industrial, and cultural collaborations.

ANANTASILA

Beach Resort Hua Hin



CONTENTS



A pop-up concept in partnership with The Beach at Anantasila. The season long supper club on the sand airlifts the entire menu from the much coveted Bangkok flagship restaurant Italian comfort food at its best.



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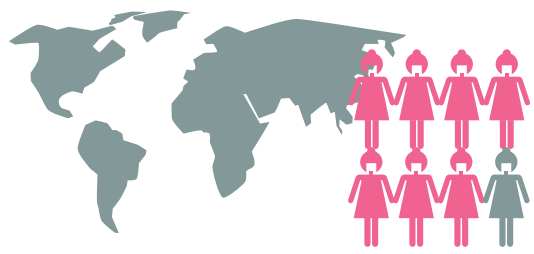
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PRINTED BY
 Scand-Media Corp., Ltd.
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1 out of 8 women will develop

Breast Cancer risk factors



Age > 50



Personal history of breast cancer



Personal history of ovarian cancer



Family history of breast cancer



BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation



Exposure to the hormone estrogen



Lifestyle factors

obesity, lack of exercise, drinking alcohol, exposure to high radiation

SCAN ME



TO ASSESS YOUR RISK



Cover Story - Lombardia



This year saw the one hundred and seventeenth edition of the 'classica delle foglie morte', the Giro di Lombardia 2023, that took place on 7 October 2023 over a course of 238 km, starting in Como and finishing in Bergamo, Italy.

The race route covers 238 kilometres and features a number of challenging climbs. There are seven climbs in total, with the crucial moment coming at Passo Di Ganda (9.2 km), whose summit will be reached with 32 kilometres to go. The last obstacle, located three kilometres from the finish in Bergamo, is the Colle Aperto climb (1.3 km).

Twenty-five teams, each consisting of seven riders, will take part in the race. Among them promises to be an exciting showdown with the heavyweights of the discipline: mr. Pogacar, two-time Tour de France record holder, mr. Roglic, Tokyo 2020 Olympic time trial champion and mr. Evenepoel, world time trial champion.

Lombardia marked the end of Thibaut Pinot's great career. The 33-year-old Frenchman won the race in 2018 and scored stage victories in all three Grand Tours. He was up against his compatriot, 2023 Giro d'Italia winner Primož Roglič, and former Vuelta champion Remco Evenepoel.

In an entertaining race, Slovenian Tadej Pogacar signed an extraordinary hat-trick at Il Lombardia, entering the history of road cycling. He attacked with just over 30 kilometres to go on the descent of the Passo di Ganda and, despite a cramp problem, crossed the finish line in Bergamo almost a minute ahead of his rivals. At the finish in Bergamo, only 122 cyclists, of the 175 who started from Como, completed the race.

*This month's cover we show the beautiful view from Lago di Como. A place rich with historical heritage that served for inspiration to many writers and poets. In the picture you can see one of its beautiful architecture and renowned villas.



TICC
NEWS

© National Geographic

THAILAND

Italy agrees to promote two-way gastronomy and tourism ties

Retrieved from *Bangkok Post*, 2 October 2023

Thailand and Italy have agreed on a plan to jointly promote gastronomy and tourism between the two countries, while Italy in particular has expressed a wish to invest more in Thailand's flagship Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC). The nations share a view that the quality of their cuisine and tourist experiences offer opportunities for profitable cross-promotion.

Srettha invites Xi to Thailand

Retrieved from *Bangkok Post*, 20 October 2023

Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin has invited Chinese President Xi Jinping to visit Thailand, hailing his trip to China as a success, according to an official. The PM and Chinese president also vowed to strengthen Thai-China relations and emphasized the Thailand-China Comprehensive Strategic Cooperative Partnership and the need to promote high-level visits between the two countries as 2025 will mark the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Thai-Chinese diplomatic ties.

2023 New Year hols to run from December 29 to January 1

Retrieved from *The Nation*, 24 October 2023

PM's secretary-general Prommin Lertsurdej told reporters after the weekly Cabinet meeting that the extra day granted in the upcoming break was being moved forward from Tuesday, January 2, 2024, to Friday, December 29, 2023.

Phuket operators balk at health centre

Retrieved from *Bangkok Post*, 31 October 2023

Tourism operators in Phuket are strongly opposed to the government plan to build a traveller health centre on the plot previously planned for the international convention and exhibition centre. The operators plan to submit a petition to the prime minister asking for an urgent revision. The plan to utilise the plot in Mai Khao for a convention centre was recently revived as part of a long-term development plan for Phuket after the Specialized Expo 2028.

ITALY

Rome Film Fest 2023 celebrates 18 years in the Eternal City

Retrieved from *Wantedinrome*, 14 October 2023

The 2023 Rome Film Fest runs from 18-29 October, offering cinema fans 12 days of movie premieres, screenings and special events. The film festival will be based at the Auditorium Parco della Musica, which will host the main screening theaters and a lengthy red carpet, with events also being held in other cultural venues around the city. Anna Magnani, the Oscar-winning Italian actress who died 50 years ago, is the face of the 18th edition of the Festa del Cinema di Roma which has taken place annually since 2006.

Italy, Germany and France strengthen cooperation on artificial intelligence

Retrieved from *Ministero per le imprese*, 30 October 2023

Minister Adolfo Urso met today in Rome the German Minister Robert Habeck and the French Minister Bruno Le Maire, together with representatives of the industrial world. The meeting, the second in this format, aimed to give new impetus to industrial cooperation in strategic sectors, with particular attention to artificial intelligence, as part of a comprehensive effort towards the digital and green transition.

Rome's Circus Maximus to host Made in Italy farm food festival

Retrieved from *Wanted In Rome*, 11 October 2023

Thousands of farmers from across Italy will showcase their food produce and traditions of farm life at the Circus Maximus in Rome over the weekend of 13-15 October. The free festival is hosted by the Italian agricultural association Coldiretti which describes the event as "the largest zero-kilometre market ever created in Italy". The farmers' market will include wine and beer tastings and a "school of extra virgin olive oil", according to organisers, as well as areas offering information about pet therapy and farmhouse holidays. There is also an "agri-kindergarten" where children can learn about skills such as kneading bread and growing vegetables. Organisers say the aim of the festival is to highlight the biodiversity of Italian agriculture and the quality of Made in Italy.

Michelangelo's secret sketches under church in Florence open to public

Retrieved from *The Guardian*, 31 October 2023

Michelangelo Buonarroti left behind a trail of artistic marvels, including his statue of David and the sublime frescoes that adorn the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. Now a "secret" room in Florence whose walls are sketched with doodles that the Italian Renaissance master is believed to have created while evading a death sentence ordered by Pope Clement VII amid his falling out with the powerful Medici family is to officially open to the public for the first time.

OTHER COUNTRIES

Can German engineering solve the challenges of fusion?

Retrieved from *BBC*, 13 October 2023

Last month the German government announced an additional €370m (£320m; \$390m) in funding for nuclear fusion research and development. This brings the total budget earmarked for the next five years to €1bn. "We want to create a fusion ecosystem with industry, so that a fusion power plant in Germany becomes reality as quickly as possible," said Minister of Research, Bettina Stark-Watzinger. Nuclear fusion is the reaction that powers the sun. It produces vast amounts of energy by fusing together hydrogen nuclei. If it can be harnessed here on Earth, then it promises abundant, cheap, and emission-free electricity.

Claudia Goldin wins Nobel in economics for work on women's pay

Retrieved from *Le Monde*, 10 October 2023

The jury at the Bank of Sweden broke new ground on two counts when, on Monday, October 9, it awarded its 2023 Prize for Economic Science to Claudia Goldin. For the first time, it has chosen a woman as its sole laureate – the previous two, Elinor Ostrom in 2009 and Esther Duflo in 2019, were "co-laureates" alongside male economists (Oliver Williamson for the former, Abhijit Banerjee and Michael Kremer for the latter). And they chose an economist specializing in gender inequality.

ORTHOPEDIC SPINE CENTER: PROVIDING A TOTAL SOLUTION

Dr. SOMPOCH PAIBOONSIRIJIT
Dr. PRITSANAI PRUTTIKUL
Dr. SURAPONG ANURAKLEKHA

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Orthopedics - Spine Surgery

Today, we interview Dr Sompoch, Dr. Pritsanai and Dr Surapong from the Orthopedic Spine Center. They will share to us about the center's commitment to customized patient care, providing a comprehensive solution for each individual's needs.

Q: Dr. Sompoch, can you shed some light on the Orthopedic Spine Center?

We, Bumrungrad International Hospital, provide the total/integrated/comprehensive solution for each patient right from the start of treatment. Our skilled doctors, utilizing cutting-edge technologies, deliver the best choice based on patients' lifestyles and symptoms. This "Total Solution" covers of course pre- and post-surgery care, ensuring support until full recovery.

"Customized solutions depends on each patient's lifestyle and symptoms"

Q: You mentioned "choice" earlier, how can we choose our treatment?

For condition that do not require surgery, we advise medication, physical therapy, or ultrasound. If surgery is necessary, we offer minimally invasive endoscopic procedures, minimizing wound size, bleeding, surgery time, muscle damage, and bone resection. Our aim is to minimize patient downtime through informed choices.

Q: How essential is the support of facilities, colleagues, and medical staff to this option of choice?

To provide and realize this choice, we, doctors rely on comprehensive support from facilities, colleagues, and medical staff. At Bumrungrad, we're fortunate to have numerous experienced endoscopic surgeons and dedicated medical professionals, ensuring optimal patient care.

Our cutting-edge OR Navigator device provides real-time 3D imaging, enhancing surgical precision and safety. These factors contribute to our ability to deliver surgery with minimal complications, surpassing global standards.

"Our advanced OR Navigator offers real-time 3D imaging, elevating surgical precision and safety"

Q: Most common symptom for patients?

Primarily back pain. Senior women often experience pain due to disk hernia linked with osteoporosis, sometimes accompanied by numbness in limbs. Men frequently seek help for sports-related injuries like golf or prolonged sitting at work or during commutes. In younger individuals, scoliosis, detected during school check-ups, is a common concern. If you're experiencing any of these issues, please consult us. Furthermore, we offer specialized muscle training sessions for expectant mothers, promoting a healthy pregnancy.

Q: Dr. Pritsanai, I heard you have excellent experiences in foreign countries?

I've gained experience in the USA, Germany, and Japan. During my time at Keio University Hospital in Japan, I focused on spine conditions, particularly scoliosis. Under the mentorship of renowned doctors like Dr. Matsumoto, I had hands-on exposure to endoscopic surgery. Learning from Keio Hospital was invaluable due to its reputation and patient-centric approach known as 'omotenashi' hospitality.

Q: How do you see Bumrungrad compared to other country's hospitals?

Every hospital has its strengths. For instance, Keio Hospital boasts numerous experienced specialists and innovative technologies. Similarly, in the US and Germany, I gained exposure to advanced technologies and top-notch facilities. In

contrast, Bumrungrad takes pride in its highly skilled medical team, exceptional facilities, and unwavering commitment to providing world-class treatment and care for patients worldwide.

Q: What about the hospitality aspect?

Bumrungrad's commitment to improving patients' quality of life and mental well-being makes me proud. Bumrungrad emphasizes teamwork, even extending to surgical assistance. While fellowships or medical students often assist in surgeries, Bumrungrad relies on experienced surgeons for this role. This, coupled with skilled medical personnel, including nurses and anesthesiologists, helps alleviate patient anxiety.

"Our motivation... Smile of the patients"

Q: Any best moments as a doctor?

I remember a girl with scoliosis who got surgery and became 3-4 cm taller than before with excellent posture. She smiled at me. Or a guy coming from another hospital/country who could barely walk because of an infection post-surgery. He recovered to normal life because of our teamwork. Seeing their smile after successful surgery is so satisfying.

Q: Dr. Surapong, any anecdote to share?

One of my patients just a couple of weeks ago was suffering from back and leg pain that prevented him from playing sports the way he used to. He tried to look for treatment in other countries, but he couldn't get a diagnosis. With our physical examination, history taking, and imaging, and with just minimally-invasive surgery, the patient recovered with only a night's stay in the hospital.

Contact Information:



Orthopedic Spine Center
Building A, 20th floor
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POST PRESS RELEASE

Vittoria opens a new carbon-neutral bicycle tyres factory in Bangkok



Samut Prakan, 3 October 2023 - The Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce with the delegation of Thai and Italian institutions at the inauguration of Vittoria Cotton Tyres Factory in Samut Prakan.

A new carbon-neutral home for Vittoria's premium cotton tyres

Following a strong ESG commitment in the building design and construction, Vittoria is proud to open the world's first carbon-neutral operations factory of bicycle tyres. The new Vittoria Cotton Tyres Factory features electric vulcanization processes, solar panels on the rooftop, reliance on renewable energy, paperless operations, electric automated guided vehicles, and carbon credits. These practices have earned the new factory the CarbonNeutral® operations certification.

This accreditation, awarded by CarbonNeutral certifier Climate Impact Partners, recognizes that Vittoria has met the provisions of the CarbonNeutral Protocol - an open source standard and guide developed for business that draws together leading independent standards for greenhouse gas accounting into a practical guide to carbon neutrality.

The new facility will be dedicated to the production of premium cotton bicycle tyres, used by professional and amateur cyclists around the world, such as Vittoria Corsa PRO - the most advanced road bicycle tyre winning the Giro d'Italia, Tour de France, Vuelta a España, World Championship and many



other World-Tour level competitions in 2023 alone.

Vittoria "green" tyre: a step into the future

The building will also give birth to Vittoria's most sustainable tyre ever made that will be released into the gravel segment in spring 2024. This new "green" tyre will be Vittoria's first bicycle tyre ever built with renewable and recycled materials. With this project, Vittoria aims to revolutionize bicycle tyre production by relying less on fossil-based and non-renewable materials.

The Vittoria Cotton Tyres Factory is yet another demonstration of the company's innovative mindset, aimed to revolutionize the cycling industry. It follows last year inauguration of the Vittoria Park at Vittoria Group HQs in Italy - the first bike park experience dedicated to all cycling disciplines - and the opening of the new US offices in Bentonville - the American cycling hub.

The relationship between Vittoria Group and Thailand is long-lasting. Since the opening of the first factory in Bangkok in 1988 under the name of Lion Tyres Thailand (LTT), it has grown to become the globally leading producer of high-quality bicycle tyres. The current operations are spread over five buildings in Bangkok and Rayong, including the famous graphene compound research and production facility and the unique 4C extruder able to merge four compounds in one single bicycle tyre tread.



100 years of Migration from Valtellina to Australia - From the Mountains to the Deserts

[Part 1]



If you ever find yourself gazing at the Valtellina terraces, you're looking at a view that's hardly changed since Bartolomeo Besta, a proud Teglio resident, was awestruck in 1882. The stone walls seem to go on forever, holding up the vineyard tiers, and you can imagine these tiers heavy with vines winding around pergolas. They would have been like a work of art carved into the steep mountainsides, reaching around 800 meters on the Rhaetian Alp side. Above that altitude, grapes struggle, giving way to birch and poplar trees, and even higher up, you'll see rugged terrain and visible erosion. But there, you might spot pine and gin trees and a colorful burst of wildflowers in the spring.

Nowadays, though, vineyards are on the decline. In many places, they're making room for apple or kiwi orchards, and the forest is slowly taking back its territory year by year. Vineyards start low on the northern Orobie Alps and then transform into chestnut groves and other kinds of woods. Transhumance, an old tradition, has all but stopped, but it used to see villages moving their animals in

mass to higher pastures in the Orobie Alps and the Rhaetian Alps during the warmer months. These pastures used to be shared land, but in the mid-19th century, they were sold off, and farmers had to buy them to keep using them.

The story behind the terraces in Valtellina is shrouded in mystery. Most historians think they've been around since Roman times, but they're still unsure. We know vineyards were thriving by the 16th and 17th centuries, suggesting these terraces were essential for village life.

As time passed, especially in the 19th century, when the population was booming, these terraces rapidly expanded. People used even the most barren and challenging terrain to grow their grapes. The terraces stood behind massive retaining walls made of stacked stones, rising over a meter tall and half a meter thick. But these walls often couldn't handle the weight of all that soil and needed constant fixing. The soil itself was shallow, barely covering the rocky layer underneath. And on those steep slopes, rain, snowmelt, and incessant cultiva-

tion constantly caused the soil to move downhill. The peasants "contadini" had to haul it endlessly back to the mountainsides in wicker baskets. Valtellina might look like a postcard, but it was a region perpetually struggling with rural poverty. Less than 7% of all the land in the province of Sondrio was arable compared with an average of 55% for Lombardy and some provinces as high as 85-95%.

What little agriculture was mainly about growing grapes - monoculture was the norm. However, these traditional farming practices had their drawbacks. This dependence on a single crop rendered its economy extremely vulnerable. Although the province produced a wide variety of other produce—cheeses, butter, chestnuts, milk, and silkworm cocoons—it could not feed itself. Crop rotation and experimentation were hampered by the "a livello", a hereditary agricultural contract requiring payment to the church or wealthy landowners in exactly the crop and quantity initially agreed upon, sometimes several centuries ago. Small landowners did most of

the vineyard work, and in 1882, Besta, called them the "poorest and most tired folks in the province" due to the back-breaking, costly, and precarious nature of vine cultivation. The economist Jacini¹, even thought it was crazy to call them landowners and likened them to indentured servants.

Contemporaries also remarked on the fervent desire to possess the impoverished land and the subsequent disintegration, or, as some asserted, almost complete pulverisation of viable farmlands. This was primarily due to inheritance laws that mandated the equitable division of each parcel among heirs. Given the prevalence of large families with eight, ten, or even more children, the number of heirs could be substantial. Nowhere else had fragmentation advanced to an extreme extent as in this region.

At the end of the 19th century, work started to reclaim the plains near the Adda River, especially around Tirano. They started building embankments to reclaim the land and cultivate the fertile alluvial soils.

Today, Valtellina has changed and grows many grains, like rye, corn, and dark raceno wheat, commonly known as spelt, used to make local delicacies like pizzoccheri, and the "black" taragna polenta.

Part 1 - The Great Migration - The Early Years

Australia was not a popular destination for emigrating Italians in the early nineteenth century. The tiny trickle to Australia was dwarfed by the massive exodus to the Americas, Africa, and other parts of Europe. However, Price² estimated that, of all male Italian settlers in Australia between 1890 and 1940, those from the northern regions comprised 70 per cent. The Valtellina remained one of the most prolific sources of Italian immigration up to 1940, and after World War II, this migration burgeoned even further.

Italy's first regular consul to Australia, Giuseppe Biagi, arrived in Melbourne in 1864 and was briefed to keep track of Italian nationals and was charged with taking a census of those in his district. For the 1871 Italian census, Biagi estimated the number of Italian residents in his consular district at 1,300, of which most (about 1,000) were in Victoria and most of the rest in New Zealand. According to Biagi, 80 per cent were from northern Italy, and over half of these, 57 per cent, were from the province of Sondrio, with the rest from Como and Bergamo.

The province of Sondrio consists of two valleys: the smaller Valchiavenna in the west and the larger Valtellina, traversed by the upper Adda River in the east. Both valleys open onto Lake Como. Sondrio, the province's capital, lies approximately 50 km from the lake. Driven by the harsh economic reality, it is unsurprising that people from the province would be among the first transoceanic migrants from Italy. Their destinations were America (both North and South) and Australia. The Valtellinese preferred migrating to Australia, whereas those from Valchiavenna and other parts of Lombardy primarily chose the Americas. In a family memoir, a Valtellina native, Maria Triaca, wrote despairingly about "a steady exodus of people from our region" to Australia.

The reasons for this wave of mass migration are at least twofold: privation and conscription. As a unified country, Italy was then relatively young, with the Kingdom of Italy being proclaimed in 1861 under the Risorgimento. Until World War 1, Italy remained an overwhelmingly agricultural country, and over three-quarters of the rural population were landless contadini. Nevertheless, Italy harboured imperial aspirations and, at the end of the nineteenth century, following the lead of other European powers, embarked on a series of military misadventures of land grabbing in Africa, collectively described as "The Scramble for Africa 1876-1912" Italy supported its military adventurism by conscripting its young peasant men.



The fact that Valtellina occupies a strategic position as the entry point to the Poschiavo Valley is partially the reason for the shift of Valtellina's emigration towards Australia during this period.

In 1855, when this area was grappling with its most severe hardships, the local populace found themselves susceptible to the efforts and messaging of emigration agents active in the Swiss towns just across the nearby borders. It has been demonstrated that a web of interests existed involving ship owners from Hamburg, Dieppe, and Liverpool who had

established connections with railway companies in the Rhine States. German shipping firms, capitalising on repealing the British Navigation Acts of 1849 that had hitherto granted England a trade monopoly with its colonies, had effectively entered competition with Britain for commerce with and transport to its colonial territories. They had also established a network of agencies in central Europe. In Hamburg, shipbuilding companies began constructing sailing vessels tailored to the Australian route, specifically transporting German and Italian emigrants.

The discovery of gold in Victoria in 1851 proved a boon for these companies. By 1853, they sought new regions to attract emigrants for their ships. These Swiss go-betweens took advantage of the situation, and in early 1854, recruitment agents focused their efforts on emigrants from specific areas of the Ticino region and Lombardy. They carried out extensive propaganda campaigns through advertisements in local newspapers, and in some towns, company representatives were dispatched to establish agent networks. Competitors like James Baines fiercely competed with Oswald's and the Beck-Herzog shipping lines.

By the spring of 1854, the region had succumbed to a gold rush frenzy. Emigrants who engaged with these companies often entered contracts that stipulated the repayment of their fare within two years, using their earnings from abroad. Some even resorted to mortgaging their properties under stringent agreements to secure the necessary funds. Most departing vessels sailed from Hamburg, while a few departed from Mediterranean ports in France, and English ships set sail from Liverpool.

As early as May 1855, the Prefettura in Sondrio sent a cautionary message to the district commissioners of Tirano concerning the actions of these foreign agents. They also issued additional circulars in both June and August. In November, Sondrio once more alerted the district commissioners of Tirano to the activities of agents who were inciting young men in the province, convincing them of the potential for lucrative earnings in Australia. The authorities made efforts to counteract this propaganda, and the police were actively engaged in dispelling these notions.

Because the authorities had limited power to act against agents operating from Switzerland, they sought to regulate the emigration of their citizens by withholding their travel documents. The Comune

¹Count Stefano Jacini was an Italian statesman and economist. In his work, *Sulle condizioni economiche della Valtellina* (Milan, 1858), he exposed the evils of Austrian rule and drew up a report on the appalling social conditions of Lombardy and Venetia. From 1881 to 1886, he was president of the Commission of Inquiry into the Agricultural Conditions of Italy and edited the voluminous report. He was elected senator in 1870 and was given the title of count in 1880. He died in 1891.

²C. A. Price, *Southern Europeans in Australia*, Melbourne 1963

in Tirano received instructions from Sondrio to exercise extreme caution before granting or endorsing requests for passports or other travel papers, particularly for destinations in Switzerland or Piedmont. They were also instructed to revoke such travel documents from individuals who had no genuine reason to travel to a foreign country, especially if there were suspicions that they were going to Australia.



To counter this criticism, the shipping companies took meticulous care in escorting emigrants to their ports of embarkation, where they were frequently asked to confirm the excellent treatment received from the company by signing statements intended for publication in the local press of the migrants. However, a different narrative emerged aboard the ships, as revealed in the emigrants' protest letters from Melbourne or the goldfields. These letters contained numerous severe allegations of mistreatment during the arduous voyage and breaches of contractual obligations. They began arriving swiftly, and many found their way into newspaper publications.

Undoubtedly, the origins of the significant Valtellina migrations to Australia can be traced back to the activities of these shipping company agents. Overwhelmingly, departures for Australia in the 1850s and 1860s originated from towns and villages close to the Swiss border. Moreover, these towns registered complaints about individuals avoiding military service.

Evasion of military service had consistently been another compelling incentive for young men considering emigration. The conscription process, often determined by a lottery system, was consistently unpopular, and this sentiment might have been particularly pronounced under Austrian rule, where the enforcement of this obligation was stricter than in imperial territories located north of the Alps.

Serving in the Austrian army typically meant being deployed outside Italy, and there were no patriotic motivations to ease the burden. Even after the Risorgimento, the prospect of an easy escape from conscription and the added allure of potential riches in distant lands continued to exert a strong pull on many young adventurers seeking to evade military service.



In September 1861, La Valtellina reported that over fifty individuals had been enticed to go to Australia in that year, and many of these were described as "honest, intelligent, and hard-working young men" who were liable for military service. Most eligible individuals in Lombardy who failed to present themselves for military duty belonged to communes in Valtellina. Instead of conscription, they were heading to Switzerland and emigration to Australia, with enticing promises of employment and a bright future.

By the 1870s, well-established routes to Australia from the towns and villages of the Valtellina had been forged. These paths continued to be travelled even after the most pressing crises had subsided. Periodic reports of the discovery of new goldfields in Australia would consistently entice gold prospectors, those seeking to evade military conscription and those fleeing reoccurring economic crises at home.

In the 1880s, the vineyards, recovered from the Crittogama epidemic with the widespread adoption of sulphur treatment, were once again devastated by Phylloxera. However, even in the best of times, this monocultural economy had limited job opportunities, and life in Valtellina remained difficult.

Consequently, the people of the Valtellina continued to emigrate, driven by the hope of attaining a better life. Migration networks began to form, facilitated by the arrival of funds for travel tickets sent by fathers, brothers, or cousins, along with letters and remittances. Returning emigrants, with their accumulated savings and news from overseas, also played a role in this dynamic. Before the century ended, Australia was no longer seen as a foreign land. It became fa-

miliar in the towns and villages of the Valtellina, and this familiarity significantly influenced the future direction of migrations.

A culture of emigration, mainly to Australia, took root in the Valtellina, ensuring that most of its emigrants would follow the same well-worn paths in the next century.

The end of the century saw a modicum of prosperity return to Valtellina, and with gold becoming harder to mine in Australia, immigration slowed, and many immigrants returned.



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POST PRESS RELEASE

Travel Hashtag Bangkok Edition



Bangkok, 25 October 2023 - Travel Hashtag, galvanized Italy seduced Bangkok, the 12th in four years which chose the capital of Thailand for its debut in South-East Asia. A networking event dedicated to the Italian destinations which saw the participation of travel agents and tour operators specialized in outbound travels, wedding planners, travel & lifestyle journalists, and professionals from the air travel and hospitality worlds.

Location of the event: the suggestive INNSIDE hotel by Meliá Bangkok Sukhumvit, opened a few months ago in the On Nut district, already a trend-setter structure for both the business and leisure segments in the city.

"A wonderful collaboration has been activated with the Italian-Thai Chamber of Commerce with which we have already scheduled a series of follow-up initiatives together with a return of the format to Bangkok during 2024 to explore new themes related to tourism of interest for this region" explains Nicola Romanelli, founder of Travel Hashtag.

Partners of the initiative sponsored by ENIT: Etihad Airways, Melia Hotels International, Kelmer Group, The Mall Luxury Outlets, Italia Wedding Tourism, Italy for Weddings, Italo NTV, Palazzo di Varignana, APT Basilicata, Matera Collection, Martulli Viaggi, Municipality of Cremona, Bettoja Hotels, Canne Biance Lifestyle Hotel, Unique Experience, Skyline Media, Just in Case, Habitat Group, Villa Tantawan Resort & Spa, The Unusual Trip, Space Eyewear.

The following day, Travel Hashtag together with its partners was the protagonist of the business meeting "Bridging Italy and Thailand in mutual tourism development" at the Rembrandt Hotel & Suites Bangkok which involved entrepreneurs and managers of companies present in the network of the Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce.

"The 2024 program will see confirmations and absolute innovations that we will reveal in the coming weeks - concludes Romanelli - The first stop of the new year will certainly be in Italy".



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Seizing Paradise: The Unparalleled Charms of Krabi, Ao Nang, and the Islands.

FEATURES

Thailand's Krabi province, home to the enchanting destinations of Krabi and Ao Nang, is a tropical haven that beckons with its natural beauty and vibrant activities. Beyond these mainland treasures, Krabi boasts a collection of stunning islands, making it an ideal destination for both adventurers and investors. In this article, we'll uncover the allure of Krabi, Ao Nang, and the surrounding islands, while highlighting sports and activities that make it an irresistible investment hub, particularly in the realm of villa developments

The Island Gem of Krabi Province:

Krabi province is adorned with a necklace of islands, each more pristine than the last. Notable mentions include:

- Koh Phi Phi: Known for its breathtaking scenery, vibrant coral reefs, and the famous Maya Bay, Koh Phi Phi is a must-visit destination for island-hoppers and water enthusiasts.

- Koh Lanta: This laid-back island offers a serene escape with its long, sandy beaches, clear waters, and a perfect blend of relaxation and adventure.

- Koh Hong: An archipelago featuring stunning lagoons and hidden caves, Koh Hong is a paradise for snorkelers and kayakers.

- Koh Jum: A serene gem in Krabi province, Thailand, offers pristine beaches, lush landscapes, and a tranquil escape from the crowds, making it an idyllic haven for relaxation and exploration.

Sports and Activities to Enchant:

- Water Sports Extravaganza: The Andaman Sea's turquoise waters provide a playground for water sports enthusiasts. From snorkeling in vibrant coral gardens to diving in world-class sites, Krabi offers an aquatic adventure like no other.

- Rock Climbing in Railay: Railay, with its towering limestone cliffs, is a mecca for rock climbers. The breathtaking views from the top and the challenge of scaling these natural wonders make it a unique and thrilling experience.

- Island-Hopping Bliss: Venture into the open sea on a traditional long-tail boat and explore the nearby islands. Whether it's the iconic Phi Phi Islands or the tranquil Koh Yao Noi, each island offers a distinct charm waiting to be discovered.

- Nature's Bounty in Thung Teao Forest Natural Park: Immerse yourself in the lush greenery of the Thung Teao Forest Natural Park. Hike to the mesmerizing Emerald Pool and rejuvenate in the soothing waters. The nearby Hot Springs provide the perfect ending to a day of exploration.

- Temple Treasures: Krabi is home to a myriad of temples that stand as symbols of the region's cultural richness. Wat Tham Sua, or the Tiger Cave Temple,

is a prominent spiritual site known for its stunning views and the challenging stairway ascent. Wat Kaew Korawaram, located in Krabi Town, is another gem adorned with intricate architecture and serene surroundings. Exploring these temples provides a glimpse into the spiritual heart of Krabi.

- Living in Harmony: One of the most profound cultural benefits of Krabi is the sense of harmony that permeates daily life. The locals' welcoming spirit and their adherence to Thai cultural values create an atmosphere of tranquility that residents and visitors alike find enriching. This harmony extends beyond rituals and festivals, becoming a way of life that fosters a deep appreciation for the cultural roots that make Krabi unique.

Unlocking Investment Opportunities: Krabi's Real Estate Boom

In the heart of Thailand, the province of Krabi emerges as a beacon of investment potential, drawing attention from savvy buyers seeking not only a luxurious lifestyle but also a promising return on investment. Krabi's real estate market is experiencing a boom, fueled by its breathtaking landscapes, a surge in tourism, and a commitment to sustainable development. Here's why investing in Krabi is an opportunity you won't want to miss.

A Paradise for the Discerning Buyer:

Krabi's allure lies in its unspoiled natural beauty. The province is adorned with pristine beaches, limestone cliffs, and lush greenery, creating a captivating backdrop for those seeking a slice of tropical paradise. As the region becomes increasingly popular, the demand for high-end properties is on the rise, making it an opportune time to invest in the real estate market.

Tourism Surge Driving Demand:

Krabi has become a hot spot for international and domestic tourists alike. With its proximity to world-famous attractions like Railay Beach and the Phi Phi Islands, the region welcomes millions of visitors each year. This tourism surge has ignited a demand for upscale accommodations, creating a lucrative market for real estate investors. Purchasing a property in Krabi positions you at the forefront of this tourism wave, ensuring a steady stream of potential renters and buyers.

Thriving Luxury Real Estate Market:

The real estate market in Krabi is witnessing a surge in luxury developments. Exclusive villas, beachfront properties, and high-end condominiums are becoming defining features of Krabi's skyline. Buyers can choose from a variety of options, each promising not just a home but a lifestyle that seamlessly blends luxury and natural beauty. These properties are not just dwellings; they are investments in an experience.

Sustainable Development Initiatives:

Krabi is not just growing; it's growing responsibly. Sustainable development initiatives are at the forefront of the region's expansion. Developers are prioritizing eco-friendly practices, energy-efficient technologies, and responsible land use, ensuring that the natural beauty that attracts buyers in the first place remains preserved for generations to come.

Your Gateway to Island Living:

Investing in Krabi isn't just about acquiring a property; it's about gaining access to a lifestyle. Whether it's waking up to the sound of waves gently crashing on the shore or exploring hidden lagoons on nearby islands, Krabi offers a unique blend of tranquility and adventure. It's not just an investment; it's an invitation to live in a perpetual vacation.

Seize the Opportunity:

With the real estate market in Krabi experiencing an upswing, now is the time to seize the opportunity. The potential for capital appreciation, coupled with the region's commitment to sustainable growth, makes Krabi a sound investment choice. Whether you're seeking a second home, a vacation rental, or a long-term investment, Krabi presents a wealth of possibilities.

In Conclusion:

Krabi's real estate market is not just booming; it's flourishing with potential. The time is ripe for buyers to invest in this tropical haven, where luxury meets sustainability and natural beauty is a daily spectacle. Consider Krabi not just as a destination but as an investment in a lifestyle that promises both financial returns and a perpetual holiday in paradise. Seize the moment and make Krabi your gateway to unparalleled island living.



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TICC welcomed Deputy Minister Valentino Valentini, and President Attilio Fontana, their first visit to Thailand.



Bangkok, 2 October 2023 - President Federico Cardini of the Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce welcomed Deputy Minister Valentino Valentini, Ministry of Enterprise and Made in Italy, and President Attilio Fontana, Lombardy Region, on their first visit to Thailand.

On the occasion of this trip, together with H.E. Ambassador Paolo Dionisi, a roundtable was organized with representatives of the Italian Chambers of Commerce in ASEAN area to discuss the importance of the role of the chambers, the enhancement of the Italian business fabric in these areas of strong economic development, trade, and the difficulties some of them face and possible solutions that could be implemented.

Following the meeting with the Vice Minister Valentino Valentini, MIMIT, and the President Attilio Fontana, Regione Lombardia, the Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce represented by the President Federico Cardini, the Vice Presidents Mallika Margherita and Dr Francesco Pensato, and the Secretary General Giacomo Iobizzi welcomed H.E. Paolo Dionisi and the delegation of the Italian Chambers of Commerce in ASEAN: President Michele d'Ercole and Vice President Federico Vasoli of ICHAM Vietnam, General Secretary Giacomo Marabiso of ICCS Singapore, and General Secretary Lorens Ziller of ICCP Philippines.

The chamber sincerely thanks all the participants and the important contribution of the sponsors: Tenuta Viglione and Dr. Angelo Villani, Italiasia, and last but not least: Four Seasons Bangkok at Chaopraya and Riva del Fiume restaurant.



High Level Dialogue on ASEAN Italy Economic Relations

Bangkok, 4 October 2023 - The Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce has participated in the High-Level Dialogue on ASEAN Italy Economic Relations at Grand Hyatt Erwan in Bangkok. Many were the distinguished speakers who took turns on stage to address the audience by presenting and sharing their opinions on ASEAN Economic Relations.

H.E. Mr. *Sihesak Phuanketkeow*, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, who held an opening speech on stage, argued that Italy is one of Thailand's most important trading partners in the European Union. Thailand, he followed, wants to continue to improve this strategic partnership. He also stated that ASEAN and Italy can forge a stronger partnership that reinforces Thailand's and Italy's common ability to deal with the challenges ahead of us and manage the global Green Transition more effectively.

Mr. Valentino Valentini, Deputy Minister of Enterprises and Made in Italy, who flew directly from Rome to attend this important event, stated that ASEAN is a very vibrant part of the world, which has seen impressive economic growth after the pandemic despite the challenges in the region. Talking about the Green Transition ahead, Minister Valentini also argued that Italy and Thailand, along with all ASEAN countries, should look forward to the Green transition ahead as an important opportunity to develop further in more innovative and strategic fields for the future.

Mr. Federico Cardini, President of Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce joined the panel discussion as a representative of Unioncamere and Assocamerestero in the persons of President Andrea Prete and Secretary General Domenico Mauriello. Cardini stated that Italy and Thailand have great potential for cooperation in the field of digitalization, innovation and creativity. The Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce is the right player to foster such cooperation.



Italian Wine Appreciation Club EP.6 Last episode of the year!



Bangkok, 12 October 2023, the Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce hosted the final Italian Wine Appreciation Club event of the year. In our 6th episode, Umbria Uncorked: A Toast to Tradition and Terroir, we had the pleasure of welcoming Ms. Aliksandra "Alia" Levchenko, a Certified Professional Italian Sommelier from Federazione Italiana Sommelier Albergatori Ristoratori (FISAR) in Milan, Italy, and a WSET 3 expert from Bangkok, Thailand. Ms. Levchenko led the session, offering our audience a blind tasting experience featuring Umbrian wines.

During this session, all participants had the opportunity to expand their wine knowledge by blind tasting five different wines from Umbria, which included La Carraia Orvieto DOC, La Carraia Albeo Umbria Bianco IGP, La Carraia Cabernet Sauvignon Umbria IGP, Solcato Umbria IGP, and Sacer Montefalco Sagrantino DCOG. At the end of the event, Ms. Aliksandra awarded the prize to the attendee who answered correctly in the Q&A session, and the prize was the Solcato Umbria IGP wine.

The Chamber would like to extend its heartfelt appreciation to GFour Food & Beverage for providing these exceptional wines that enhanced the event's success. We also want to express our gratitude to all those who contributed to and participated in making this event a resounding success. Cheers to everyone who played a role in making it a reality!



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TICC attended the Business Dialogue at Deloitte Hong Kong

HONG KONG, 13-14 October 2023 - The Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce participated in the captivating Business Dialogue at Deloitte Hong Kong, organized by The Italian Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and Macao. The event centered around the theme of "Lifestyle and Luxury Retail: challenges and opportunities for the positioning of Made in Italy in the Greater Bay Area and ASEAN countries." It was a remarkable gathering supported by Assocamerestero (the Association of Italian Chambers of Commerce Abroad) and the Italian Quality Lifestyle Council, with the esteemed patronage of the Italian Embassy in Beijing and the Consulate General of Italy in Hong Kong & Macao.

Furthermore, on Saturday 14 October, our Chamber took part in the "MEETING D'AREA - Asia, South Africa and Oceania" discussing important topics regarding a more extensive collaboration in the Region, exchange of expertise and adoption of new strategies to support Italian companies to penetrate these areas of important economical development. This meeting saw the active participation of Italian Chambers of Commerce representing various territories, including Mainland China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Philippines, Australia, and India.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Domenico Mauriello, Mr. Paolo Bazzoni, and Mr. Davide De Rosa for their invaluable contributions in making this event a resounding success.





POST PRESS RELEASE

The World Pasta Day event at The Food School in Bangkok



In partnership with  Sponsored By  Organized By   Venue Partner 

Bangkok, 16 October 2023 - The Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce in partnership with Rustichella d'Abruzzo held the World Pasta Day event at The Food School in Bangkok.

The Pasta Day was designed to highlight and promote the authenticity of pasta in all its forms and flavors, showcasing Italian regional recipes and utilizing Rustichella d'Abruzzo's high-quality ingredients.

Enriching the event were Italian chefs known for their decades of experience in the kitchens of some of Bangkok's best Italian restaurants. Over a hundred people from the F&B sector joined the event to savor the authenticity of Italian cuisine. The Chamber also sincerely extends its gratitude to the Ambassador of Italy, H.E. Paolo Dionisi, for his participation in the event.

Rustichella d'Abruzzo's status as a TICC member played a pivotal role in the event's success. The President of the Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Federico Cardini, expressed his gratitude for the invaluable partnership that made this wonderful event possible.





POST PRESS RELEASE

The inauguration of the EssilorLuxottica Factory

Rayong, 17 October 2023 - The Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce attended the inauguration of the EssilorLuxottica Factory as a significant expansion of its global manufacturing footprint with the opening of a new integrated ophthalmic lenses and frames manufacturing plant in Rayong, Thailand.

The approximately 220,000 square meters facility is one of the largest for the EssilorLuxottica Group globally with end-to-end manufacturing capabilities at a single campus for production of ophthalmic lenses to prescription frames, sunglasses and assembly of complete pairs (both lenses and frames). It includes innovative equipment and cross-cutting technologies to integrate automation into manufacturing processes.

A new integrated ophthalmic lenses and frames manufacturing plant in Rayong, Thailand

State-of-the-art facilities in close proximity with the markets are pivotal to the robustness and agility of the Group's supply-chain, supporting its ability to deal with volume expansion, ensure quality, and promote innovation while addressing the growing visual health needs of consumers with a variety of high-quality eyecare and eyewear, accessible to everyone.

The new facility will complement the Group's existing operations across the APAC region that includes major facilities in Greater China, India, Japan, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.

The long-term partnership with the Thailand government, its growing talent ecosystem, technology capabilities and policy environment that first attracted our company to Thailand more than 30 years ago has been a key incentive for our continuing investment.

EssilorLuxottica is expecting to create over 6,000 new local jobs, within the new facility located in the northwestern part of the Rayong Province, at the Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC) over the next five years. This includes engineers and other highly skilled positions required to manage advanced manufacturing technologies, the high level of digitalization and automation of processes, as well as sophisticated logistics hub. These are critical factors contributing to national program Thailand 4.0, which focuses on accelerating the growth of innovation and advanced digital technologies.

The new facility will be LEED Gold certified, recognizing the highest standards of sustainability from an environmental, social, economic and health standpoint. It will include solar panels to create renewable energy and advanced systems to minimize water consumption using recycle treatment technologies in line with EssilorLuxottica's "Eyes on the Planet" program which includes a strategic commitment toward carbon neutrality.

EssilorLuxottica, as one of the Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce's members, has had a strong presence in Thailand since the 1990s. The Group now counts three mass production manufacturing sites and industrial labs in Chonburi, Lat Krabang, and Rayong, as well as offices and retail stores in Bangkok.

รู้จักอิตาลี 20 แคว้น

Lazio: A Captivating Blend of History, Culture, and Modern Charms

ซีรีส์ Webinar จากหอการค้าไทย - อิตาลี ที่จะนำพาคุณไปรู้จักกับแคว้นทั้ง 20 แคว้นในอิตาลี



The Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce (TICC) is glad to announce the next episode of Webinar Series dedicated to the 20 Regions of Italy, called: "Toscana: A Journey Through Timeless Beauty and Enchanting Landscapes". Follow our webinar series that will take you on its prosperity and development, making it one of the most advanced places in Europe.

Luxury Italy: Top Destinations aims to promote and educate non-Italians about discovering iconic cities, regions, as well as lesser-known destinations. In this episode 7, "Lazio: A Captivating Blend of History, Culture, and Modern Charms," we delve into the renowned region of Lazio, which is renowned for its rich heritage, captivating culture, and contemporary allure. Join us as we explore the region's prominent tourist destinations, its grand history, mesmerizing art, and unique local cuisine, presented by Giacomo Iobizzi. He will share his firsthand experiences of the region, encompassing its beauty, history, tourism, and local gastronomy.



EP. 8, "Friuli Venezia Giulia: A Mosaic of Cultures, Nature, and Culinary Delights"

This region is renowned for its diverse tourism, rich history, breathtaking nature, and traditional local cuisine. Our guest speaker, Mr. Napachart Nimkiertkajon, Craft Select's Managing Director will share their firsthand experiences on the beauty, history, tourism, and local cuisines found in this captivating region. As well as the its diverse heritage is reflected in the architecture of cities like Trieste and Udine. The region's stunning landscapes range from Adriatic beaches to the Alpine peaks, including the UNESCO-listed Dolomites, offering outdoor adventures. Food enthusiasts revel in its culinary delights, from prosciutto and cheeses to seafood dishes, complemented by renowned local wines. It's a captivating destination blending culture, nature, and exceptional cuisine.

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Tuesday 7th November 6-9 pm Pullman Bangkok Hotel G

Dr. Paul Crosio
John Casella

"Alternatives for Foreigners Seeking Long-Term Stay in Thailand"

7 November 2023
Pullman Bangkok



Week of the Italian Cuisine in the World

Week of the Italian Cuisine in the World (the 8th Edition)

13-19 November 2023
Bangkok, Thailand



Awarding Ceremony
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Ospitalita' Italiana Ceremony in Phuket

1 December 2023
Metadee Concept Hotel




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7 DEC
6:00 PM onwards
The Four Seasons Bangkok Hotel

TICC Christmas Gala Dinner

7 December 2023
Four Seasons Bangkok



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