



The Sarojin

Khao Lak, Thailand

One of Thailand's best-kept secrets. What makes it such a little winner is two things. First, the service: in Thailand it's rarely slack but here, however gentle and quiet it may be, crikey, the staff are on the ball. Whatever music you want on the way from the airport, a little locally handmade potion for your bites, an escort to the food market who can then teach you how to cook under a waterfall – it's imaginative and thoughtful stuff. (Maybe it's to do with management inviting all the employees to stay one weekend a year with their families that makes the running of things seem so sincerely cocooning.) Secondly, the setting: a wham-bam wild and rugged seven-mile-long palm-fringed smack in the face. Walk it, or just stare at it from the oversized stone tubs on your balcony. The Sarojin is like staying in a well-run private house: romantic, low-key and contemporary. The pool is amazing, the pocket-sized spa jolly good and the restaurant under a huge ficus tree serves great simple seafood. Winning. **Website** sarojin.com. **UK reservations** Cleveland Collection (tel: 0845 450 5732). **Rates** Double, from £300.