

## The elephant in the room (almost)

ANANTARA'S ELEPHANT CAMP IN THAILAND GETS GUESTS UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH THE MOST MAJESTIC CREATURES ON THE PLANET



### 05 THE ESCAPE

Overlooking the Mekong and Ruak rivers in Chiang Rai, Anantara Golden Triangle Elephant Camp & Resort is set within 160 acres of jungle, with around 22 elephants roaming the wild. With programmes run by mahouts and conservation a top priority, opportunities to get to know these gentle giants take the form of longtail boat cruises, jungle walks and playtime in the river. Hop in the sidecar of a Royal Enfield motorcycle with a private driver, which allows extra mobility while tracking the animals beyond the borders of the resort as well

as unfettered access to hilltop views of Thailand, Laos and Myanmar. Later, bed down in the camp's dome-shaped sleeping quarters, through which you can watch the animals graze, socialise and interact with the unique landscape around you. By banning elephant riding and creating new ways to witness first hand the magic and movement of these creatures, Anantara hopes to set a new standard in non-invasive wildlife experiences. **AP**

*From £938 per night for existing guests, [anantara.com](http://anantara.com)*

# 06

THE SPA



## Where science meets spirituality

HOW TO ACCESS ALL THE BENEFITS OF SHA WELLNESS CLINIC'S CUTTING-EDGE SPA TECHNOLOGY IN THE PRIVACY OF YOUR OWN SPACE

Regulars at Alicante's SHA Wellness Clinic come for the science-backed 'spa' (which, admittedly, is a little bit more like a lab – think intravenous liver detoxing and oxidative stress tests). But they return for the long-lasting results in wellbeing and weight loss, delivered by medical experts, holistic treatments and hi-tech facilities.

Designed by architect Carlos Giraldo and decked out with Elvira Blanco's interiors, 11 private residences mean guests can make the most of on-site facials, yoga classes and personal trainers in a setting that feels more home than hotel. With futuristic wraparound swimming pools and a terraced structure, the residences can also include a private chef to provide gut-friendly macrobiotic meals to keep you on track during your stay. SHA has also announced plans to open clinics in Mexico next year, and Abu Dhabi in 2025. **AP**

*Private residences from £1,676,  
[shawellnessclinic.com](http://shawellnessclinic.com)*

