



航海旅宿

Time for some maritime? By CATHY ADAMS

想體驗一下航海樂趣嗎?撰文:Cathy Adams

HUMANS HAVE BEEN sailing from A to B since the beginning of civilisation. Native American tribes in the Pacific Northwest had dugout canoes as early as 45,000 years ago. China had ships charting the coasts of Asia and beyond from around 200 BC. Fast-forward to the ninth century AD and the Vikings were steering longships through Nordic waters. Shipping has since swollen to a global industry worth more than US\$183 billion (HK\$1.4 trillion) a year.

And this multi-billion-dollar industry has spawned a wide range of wharves, ports and buildings in important (and formerly important) port cities around the world. It's also birthed a whole new architectural style – nautical – that goes beyond hanging a picture of Turner's Dutch Boats in a Gale in the lobby.

自文明伊始,人類已乘船渡海前往異地。早於45,000年前,太平洋 西北部的美洲原住民部落就懂得挖木造舟;約於公元前200年起, 中國的船隻也開始遠航至亞洲和更遠的海岸。及至公元九世紀, 維京人駕駛長船征服北歐水域。自此·航運以勢不可擋之姿蓬勃 發展,成為年值逾1,830億美元 (14,000億港元) 的全球行業。

這個身價千億美元的產業,不但催生了世界各地多個重要的 今昔港口城市及其碼頭、港口和建築物,更孕育了嶄新的航海建築 風格,而這並非純粹在大堂懸掛一幅透納名畫《Dutch Boats in a Gale》那樣簡單。

KATA ROCKS, PHUKET (ABOVE)

High up in the hills above Kata Beach in Western Phuket is Kata Rocks, the island's most playful hotel (in-res DJ, sparkling kidney pool, cocktails that glow radioactive under the resort's lights). Each apartment-style room is shaded by a whiter-than-white canvas canopy, shaped like the hull of a yacht - and made with the same coated fibreglass fabric as the roof of Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi Airport. This December, Kata Rocks will host its second annual Superyacht Rendezvous - meaning these bobbing party palaces pull up outside the hotel and everybody piles out to the penthouse suite for exclusive parties and dinners. katarocks.com

布吉,卡塔磐石度假村(上圖)

盤踞於布吉西部卡塔山上的卡塔磐石度假村,是全島最玩味十足 的酒店,擁有駐場DJ、奪目的腰果形泳池,還有在度假村閃爍的燈 光下散發熒光的雞尾酒。每間公寓式客房的日光浴露台上方都罩 以雪白的帆布頂、狀如帆船的船身、帆布更採用與曼谷蘇凡納布米 國際機場頂部相同的玻璃纖維塗層面料製成。今年12月,度假村 將第二次舉辦年度超級遊艇交流會,屆時這些海上的派對宮殿將 停泊於度假村的海面,一眾賓客亦將雲集天台套房,參加獨家派對 和晚宴。

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