

Life&Leisure
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BROTHERS
of **PEARL**

ONLY ONE IN 10,000: THE PASPALEYS'
RAREST TREASURES IN DEMAND

THE
JEWELLERY
ISSUE



Gold rush

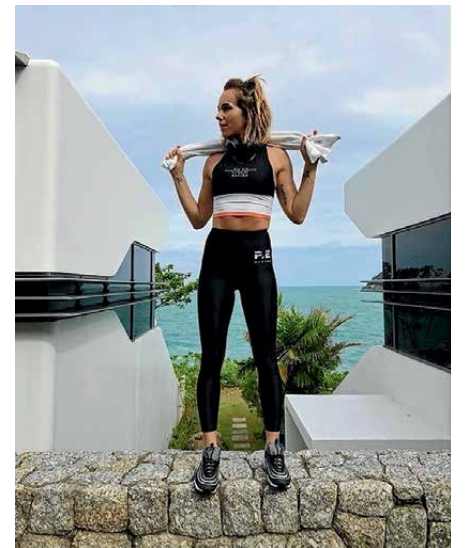
ARTIST JEWELLERY
HITS INVESTORS'
RADARS

Family jewels

TED TURNER'S
ACTIVIST DAUGHTER
ON HER LUCKY
CHARM

**Diamond
threads**

WHY DESIGNERS
LOVE GEM-LED
FASHION



LEFT: Sail-like canopies and open vistas add to the nautical vibe of Kata Rocks resort. ABOVE: Sportswear designer Pip Edwards actively enjoying the resort. BELOW: Phuket is billing itself as the yacht charter hub of Asia.

LOVE FOR SAILS

KATA ROCKS RESORT'S END-OF-YEAR SUPERYACHT EVENT AIMS TO LURE MORE LUXURY BOATS TO ASIA, WRITES **FIONA CARRUTHERS**.

Fancy boats, plunge pools and wraparound views of the Andaman Sea? Kata Rocks, on the tip of Thailand's Phuket, delivers it all over three days from December 6 to 9 with an annual superyacht rendezvous.

The resort's creator, British property developer and boat owner Richard Pope, went after the superyacht market shortly after he opened his 34-villa property in November 2014.

In a nod to Pope's love of yachting, the entire resort – which has attracted investment from Australian time-share owners – is designed with a nautical look and feel, including sail-style canopy shades and generous amounts of decking.

A one-bedroom Sky Pool Villa with seven-metre infinity pool starts at 28,000 baht (\$1208) per night, or put your

name on the four-bedroom Sky Pool Villa Penthouse for 75,000 baht.

Australian activewear designer Pip Edwards and model Jesinta Franklin are among the celebrity crowd who have stayed at Kata Rocks over the past six months.

Last year, 17 boats and about 200 guests – including brokers and representatives of the major yacht manufacturers, plus a handful of local owners – attended the event for three days of champagne, beach parties and boat hopping.

"The superyacht world has traditionally been about the whole 'Mediterranean and Caribbean' thing," Pope told *Luxury*. "We created this event last year to encourage more superyachts to come down from the Med and spend a few months in Asia. It also has great potential for Australia, as many of the yachts will continue on down your way."

An extreme-relaxation highlight of the resort is its Infinite Luxury Day Spa, which even has a solution for monsoon season (May to October) in the form of the "rainy-day bliss" package, which includes a Senso Bed experience (perfect for total relaxation) or an Energy Pod session (which aims to break the chronic stress cycle).

You might just need both. ☒

The writer attended the 2017 Kata Rocks Superyacht Rendezvous as a guest of Kata Rocks resort and Thai Airways.

