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Inside Myanmar's newest luxury resort

A luxe property on Inle Lake will soon provide travellers yet another reason to tick the country off their bucket list









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SEPTEMBER 16, 2016















The 94-room Sanctum Inle Resort will welcome guests this October

If Myanmar's been on your bucket list then there's no better time than now to go. Elections have installed Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi's party in power. Reforms are underway. New infrastructure is being built. And mass tourism isn't too far behind. Add to all this, the opening of a luxury hotel on the shores of massive (120sq km) Inle Lake, which is famous for its picturesque floating villages, gardens and fisherfolk who appear to be dancing on one leg whilst rowing their boats. The 94-room Sanctum Inle Resort will welcome guests this October and is a two-hour trip from Yangon - the closest airport - by air, car and boat; certainly spells getaway to us if you've got to employ virtually all means of transport known to man to get there!

The trip is well worth it, we're told on good authority. Rooms and suites reflect the austere nature of the surrounding environment in their minimalist décor - wooden floors, lofty ceilings. You can expect an Olympic-sized saltwater swimming pool that looks out onto the lake, a spa with five treatment rooms, a restaurant, named The Refectory, which serves upscale cuisine from the region's Shan community (also other international fare) and the Cloister Bar, the highlight of which will be its locally brewed beers and cigars from Cuba and the Dominican Republic. While all this may tempt you stay indoors, what's the point of it all if you don't go out and explore? The hotel offers curated trips to both local vineyards and ancient temples. Go on, make a holiday of it.

Here's what you can expect:

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