SILKS AND SHEEN

At Anantara Siam Bangkok Hotel, guests are encouraged to make themselves feel at home in their exclusive Bangkok base.

By MARK LEAN

As frequent travellers to Bangkok will know, the storied Anantara Siam Bangkok Hotel conveys a sense of calm in a city known for its relentless energy. Adding to the allure is its recent 450 million baht ($120 million) renovation of rooms, suites and public spaces, one that has put a new gloss onto the chain's flagship 234-room property.

Besides the hotel's warm and gracious staff, some of whom have been with the property for decades, the design highlights include the imposing staircase that leads to the entrance, the buzzy lobby bar as well as the recently unveiled Explorer Suite by Jim Thompson.

The suite's two-bedroom suite recollects Thai summer shades of old. Shiny teak flooring pair beautifully with paneled walls, both of which form a canvas for the exquisite furnishings, standout fabrics and beautiful artworks that are displayed. Guests are encouraged to make themselves feel at home in their exclusive Bangkok base.

The accommodation has been thoughtfully appointed by one of Thailand's most famous lifestyle brands - Jim Thompson. A generous living and dining space is just the venue to host an impromptu dinner, while a library and office space project a more focused atmosphere for a spot of work. Other highlights of this one-of-a-kind accommodation in Thailand are the two brightly lit marble bathrooms, each with a tub to relax in after a busy day of meetings or exploring the enigmatic Thai capital. www.siam-bangkok.anantara.com

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