

VIETNAM

A country with lot's of history that has some of the finest five star hotels and golf resorts in Asia.

TRAVEL GADGETS

The very latest travel tools to help make every corporate traveller's life easier.

globaltraveller.co.nz

GT

GLOBAL TRAVELLER: BUSINESS



12

Conferences
At Sea

28

Airport News

38

Luxury in
Northland

Top 5 Hotels in Vietnam

GT | Global Traveller Magazine | June 2016 | www.globaltraveller.co.nz

THE NUMBER ONE CORPORATE TRAVELLER MAGAZINE

BUSINESS TRAVEL | CONFERENCES | LUXURY ESCAPES

BA NA GOLF COURSE OPENS



Ba Na Hills GC designer Luke Donald tees off during the Sony Open in January 2016.



Luke Donald tells GT how he got started in golf course design and why Vietnam?

Q: How did this project come about, and what made you decide to pursue it?

A: It was clearly a very good site, and I have had a strong interest in golf course design for a long time. So I thought it was time to pursue a design project.

Q: Has golf course design always been an interest of yours? If not, when did you start to think you might like to give it a go?

A: I was an art major in college at Northwestern University in Chicago. Being artistic has always run in my blood, so yes, golf course architecture has long been an interest of mine. I'm always paying attention to the details of golf courses I play each and every week. Golf course design is something I've wanted to be involved with for a while.

Q: What was the biggest thing you learned from a design perspective with this, your first design ever?

A: The biggest thing I learned was that you really have to work with the land you are given, and that drainage is a big part of the thought process. I also learned that I really enjoy the process. Hopefully I can do many more golf designs in the future.

Q: What do you want people to say when they walk off the 18th green at Ba Na Hills? What sort of impression do you want it to make on guests?

A: I want people to feel challenged, but still enjoy the experience and the variety that the course presents. I also want them to leave the course being able to remember each hole.

In March 2016, Golf Coast Vietnam welcomed its newest member to the tourism collective — Ba Na Hills Golf Club, a parkland-style course at the foot of a towering mountain range less than half an hour's drive from Danang.

But for many, the most compelling characteristic is the famous name attached to it — Luke Donald. The former world No. 1 golfer designed Ba Na Hills GC in collaboration with IMG. This is Donald's first design project in the world.

