

Lambert & Lambert

Q & A

STORY

- MOVIES: LITTLE
- BOOKS: THE RISK OF US BY RACHEL HOWARD
- MUSIC: I LIKE IT DOWN HERE BY WILL KIMBROUGH
- FOOD: A TOUCH OF ZEN

Keir Giles' first thought was that the man's cheap-looking suit didn't seem right for a private equity executive. The man seated in front of him at the London hotel claimed to live in Hong Kong, but didn't seem overly familiar with the city. Then there was the awkward conversation, which kept returning to one topic in particular: the Russian antivirus firm Kaspersky Lab.

He also asked Giles to repeat himself or speak louder so persistently that Giles said he began wondering "whether I should be speaking into his tie or his briefcase or wherever the microphone was."

"He was drilling down hard on whether there had been any ulterior motives behind negative media commentary on Kaspersky," said Giles, a Russia specialist with London's Chatham House think tank who often has urged caution about Kaspersky's alleged Kremlin connections. "The angle

he wanted to push was that individuals — like me — who had been quoted in the media had been induced by or motivated to do so by Kaspersky's competitors."

The Associated Press has learned that the mysterious man, who said his name was Lucas Lambert, spent several months last year investigating critics of Kaspersky Lab, organizing at least four meetings with cybersecurity experts in London and New York.

Giles said he met with Lambert twice last year, ostensibly to discuss Giles speaking at a cybersecurity conference that Lambert's company was organizing. But Lambert seemed far more interested in finding out whether anyone had been paid to publicly undermine Kaspersky.

Kaspersky Lab declined to answer questions from the AP about whether it had any involvement with the meetings.

CONTINUED ON X3

NEWS OF THE WORLD

Raphael Satter, AP Cybersecurity Writer

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

EXCLUSIVE

Mysterious operative haunted

The operation targeting Giles and others came at a sensitive time for the Moscow-based company, which boasts one of the world's most popular consumer antivirus products and a research unit widely respected for routinely exposing elite hacking groups.

U.S. officials had occasionally expressed wariness about the firm over the years, but criticism of the company intensified in the aftermath of Russian intervention in the 2016 presidential election.

U.S. lawmakers began calling for restrictions on Kaspersky, contending that a Russian firm could not be trusted to keep American networks safe, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ordered federal agencies to remove the firm's antivirus software from their computers. Congress later passed legislation banning the software from government networks.

By the time Giles met with Lambert, Kaspersky was suing the U.S. government over its decision, arguing that it never helped hackers and was being "considered guilty until proven innocent." U.S. judges have since dismissed the lawsuit.

The AP learned that Lambert also targeted Michael Daniel, who served as former president Barack Obama's cybersecurity czar, though it is unclear whether he actually managed to meet with Daniel.

In an email exchange with the AP, Lambert insisted that he and his company were genuine, but he did not reply to follow-up questions

about the multiple discrepancies in his story or make himself available for an interview. The AP could find no evidence of the existence of the firm Lambert said he worked for, Tokyo- and Hong Kong-based NPH Investments.

Research by Citizen Lab, an internet watchdog group based at the University of Toronto's Munk School, suggests the Lucas Lambert operation is linked to an almost identical one involving a man calling himself Michel Lambert. Michel's bungled attempt in a Manhattan restaurant to entrap John Scott-Railton, a senior researcher at the lab, was caught on camera by AP reporters two months ago.

The two Lamberts appear to be different individuals. A few days after the AP published Michel Lambert's photo, he was outed as former Israeli intelligence officer Aharon Almog-Assouline. In a Canadian court filing, a Toronto attorney said Assouline "bears a striking similarity" to a man he identified as an operative for Black Cube, an Israeli private intelligence firm.

Black Cube has denied any connection to the operation targeting Citizen Lab or to Michel Lambert. Its Israeli law firm, Cassouto & Co., said in a letter that it had absolutely no



The exterior of the Wharf T&T Centre building in Hong Kong. The building was allegedly the home of NPH Investments, a Hong Kong and Tokyo-based firm

link to Lucas Lambert either. "Black Cube denies it ever worked — directly or indirectly — for or on behalf of Kaspersky Lab," the letter said. "Black Cube also denies any involvement with an undercover operative going by the alias 'Lucas Lambert.' Black Cube does not know who 'Lucas Lambert' is and never heard this name."

Giles said that Lucas Lambert first reached out to him in an April 30, 2018, email, saying he wanted to discuss a private investor conference being organized by his company. He said NPH's clients wanted to know more about the overlap between cybersecurity companies and gov-

ernments, offering Giles — who regularly gives lectures — USD10,000 to deliver a keynote speech.

Giles said he agreed to meet on May 10 to discuss the idea. And while the pair did discuss the potential speaking engagement, Giles said Lambert also quizzed him on his attitude toward Kaspersky.

Giles had given interviews suggesting Kaspersky's claims to be a neutral player should be taken with a grain of salt, saying it wouldn't be unusual for the company to cooperate with Russian spies in the same way that U.S. companies have in the past been caught giving discreet assistance to the National

Security Agency.

Even if Kaspersky itself resisted such cooperation, Giles said, "individual employees of the company in Russia can be subverted with great ease."

At their meeting, Giles said, Lambert sounded him out on those criticisms, asking him whether doubts about Kaspersky were being sown by industry rivals jealous of the company's success. Lambert also asked if Giles and others were being induced by anyone to denigrate the company in the media.

"I told him repeatedly that that was not the reason," Giles said.

Giles said he exited the meeting with mixed feelings: Lambert's backstory

DRIVE IN

Jake Coyle, AP Film Writer

'LITTLE' HERALDS BIG-TIME ARRIVAL OF MARSAI MARTIN

Since Hailee Steinfeld rode into town in "True Grit," we've been fairly blessed by the big-screen breakthroughs of teenage actresses. To name just a few: Anya Taylor-Joy ("The Witch"), Amandla Stenberg ("The Hate U Give"), Elsie Fisher ("Eighth Grade").

Add Marsai Martin to the list. And at just 14-years-old — 13 when the cameras rolled — she's one-upped them all. Along with starring in "Little," Martin is also an executive producer, the youngest credited in Hollywood history. She is, quite literally, a boss.

And Martin, a tiny tyrant beneath a Diana Ross-sized afro, is the number one reason to see "Little." The movie, itself, is a middling "Big"-styled body-swap comedy. But it's elevated considerably the verve and charisma of its cast, which also features Issa Rae and Regina Hall.

But there's a special pleasure in seeing someone front-and-center for the first time that you know is going to hold the spotlight. Martin, the "black-ish" star, helped conceive of "Little," and the film, fittingly, is itself a kind of fable of self-empowerment.

An enjoyably over-the-top Hall (playing a far crueler boss than her "Support the Girls" supervisor) stars as Jordan Sanders, a high-powered executive who runs her Atlanta tech company with a Scrooge-level degree of abuse for all who encounter her, including her many employees and, most of all, her assistant, April (Rae). When Jordan insults a wand-wielding young girl ("You chocolate Hogwart!"), a spell is cast, and the next morning Jordan awakes as her 13-year-old self (Martin).

The premise is overly familiar ("Freaky Friday,"

'13 Going on 30"), but there's an obvious twist. After a panicked Jordan summons April to her high-rise apartment for help, April refutes the movie's very premise: "But that's for white people." Looking for answers, she quickly googles "Female Gary Coleman disease."

They're good lines in a movie that could have used more of them. Child services (Rachel Dratch) is called in. Jordan is sent back to her old school where, as seen in a flashback that opens the movie, she initially resolved to become the bully rather than the bullied. Jordan introduces herself as the "new alpha" and makes eyes at her teacher (Justin Hartley), purring, "Teach me somethin'."

Just as Jordan will have to learn to soften, April will have to toughen. When Jordan is small, April is thrust into running the company. While having as much of



Marsai Martin in a scene from "Little"

Rae, the gifted creator and star of "Insecure" is very welcome, director Tina Gordon Chism (screenwriter of "Drumline" and "What Men Want"), who co-wrote the film with Tracy Oliver, gets a little caught between story lines and tones. The comedy opportunities are riper for "Little" in the classroom, but the movie ends up feeling more like a workplace

comedy. Chism might have been better served daring more adult humor, or being content with the PG-13-rated "Little" as family entertainment.

The pacing is sluggish when it should be quickening, and nothing in how "Little" turns out will surprise anyone. Yet the trio of Hall, Rae and Martin makes "Little" a consistently pleasant experien-

ce. Martin isn't just playing a version of her "black-ish" character, but is effectively channeling Hall's performance in miniature. She's going to be big.

"Little," a Universal Pictures release, is rated PG-13 by the Motion Picture Association of America for some suggestive content. Running time: 109 minutes. ★★☆☆

Kaspersky critics

AP PHOTO



A business card that Giles was given by an undercover operative using the alias Lucas Lambert during a meeting at a London hotel

raised some flags, but he seemed knowledgeable about cybersecurity. So when Lambert asked if Giles could recommend anyone else for the conference, he put him in touch with an American cybersecurity expert he knew. In an email exchange with his U.S. colleague, Giles said the conference could be an opportunity for them both to earn money and enjoy some dim sum in Hong Kong. But he added an important caveat. "I have no guarantees this is a legit operation," Giles wrote, explaining that he could find no one who had

heard of NPH Investments.

"I'm proceeding with mild caution," he said.

An AP search of Japan's National Tax Agency database found no record of NPH Investments. And while there is a company called NPH Investments Limited based in Hong Kong — the company Lambert claimed to work for when challenged by the AP — corporate records show that it's registered at a different address than the one displayed on Lambert's business card and on NPH's website. The regis-

tered owner of NPH Investments Limited did not return a message from the AP.

A receptionist at the Wharf T&T Centre in Hong Kong, the address Lambert claimed to work from, told an AP reporter that the company was not listed in the building's directory. The management at Tokyo's Nishi Shinjuku-Takagi Building, where Lambert also claimed to have an office, said they found no trace of the firm.

The website of Lambert's NPH also is strikingly similar to a number of fake sites recently used to target cybersecurity researchers at Citizen Lab.

Scott-Railton, one of the researchers, said the sites followed the same domain registration pattern, used off-the-shelf designs from an Israeli firm called Wix and were connected to a web of LinkedIn profiles featuring black-and-white or oddly angled photographs of men and women wearing sunglasses.

"Whoever created the NPH Investments identity was drawing from the same playbook," Scott-Railton said.

Giles said his suspicions about NPH deepened after his second meeting with Lambert on June 6. Lambert asked the same questions all over again, he said, complete with the

requests to repeat himself and talk loudly. The only variation was when Lambert falsely claimed that Giles had told him Kaspersky's critics had been paid to slam the company in the media.

"That removed my remaining doubts that this was to hear — and possibly record — my comments on Kaspersky," Giles said. "He was plainly hoping for an admission by me that either I or others had been working on behalf of other cybersecurity companies to reduce Kaspersky's business."

Meanwhile, the U.S. cybersecurity expert that Giles recommended had also met Lambert, sitting down at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in New York on May 31. There, and at a second meeting with the expert on July 10, Lambert also touched on criticisms of Kaspersky.

"He brought it up more than once," the cybersecurity expert said, speaking on condition of anonymity because his employer had asked him not to identify himself publicly. "He asked whether economic competitors were trying to gin up the security threat."

In his conversations with Giles and the U.S. expert, Lambert appeared particularly eager to meet with Michael Daniel, who was White House cybersecurity coordinator between 2012 and 2017, asking both men for Daniel's contact details.

Neither was able to provide an introduction, but Lambert claimed to have made contact. In an email obtained by AP, he said he met with Daniel last September and labeled

the get-together a success.

But the Cyber Threat Alliance, a mainly American organization that Daniel now leads and is devoted to sharing intelligence about digital threats, said the former White House official had no recollection of any suspicious meetings. The alliance added that Daniel "has assumed he is a potential target for these kinds of operatives since he started in the White House seven years ago."

A motive for targeting Daniel is unclear.

In April 2017, Kaspersky had expressed an interest in joining Daniel's Washington-based group, according to a former U.S. intelligence official briefed on the discussions, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to discuss the matter publicly. The former official said the sporadic communications went nowhere, petering out in February 2018, two months before Giles received his first email from Lambert.

The alliance said it did not comment on membership discussions.

A few weeks after he claimed to have met Daniel, Lambert's operation appears to have wound down. He wrote Giles on Oct. 15 to tell him the conference would have to be postponed because a major client had "an unplanned board meeting."

Giles remembers feeling relieved that the surreal episode was over.

"This was a kind of go-through-the-mirror experience," he said, warning others in his position to be on their guard. "It's really important for us to stay on the right side of the looking glass."

BOOK IT

GORGEOUS NOVEL EXPLORES ADOPTING A FOSTER CHILD

With breathtaking brevity, Rachel Howard's debut novel, "The Risk of Us," illuminates the joys, challenges, fears and frustrations of adopting a foster child. And while she delves into the minutiae of "the system" and the differences of opinion about parenting styles, her deceptively thin volume is about much more than plunging into parenthood.

Howard masterfully illuminates how parenthood manages to bend even the most solid of marriages and expose insecurities about past relationships, including those from childhood.

In "The Risk of Us," the unnamed narrator and her husband, Sebastian, choose 7-year-old, Maresa, "a brown-haired gremlin with arms flung like she could fly off the page" from a binder labeled "Children Available." They spend the next year learning about Maresa, themselves and each

other as well as the clearly dysfunctional foster care system in California.

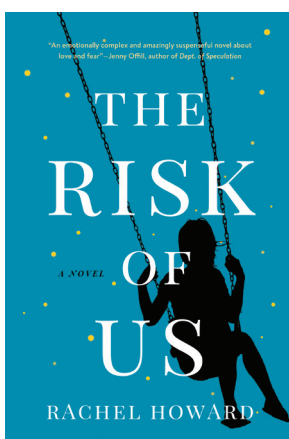
Howard's first book was a memoir, which isn't surprising given the pages of her novel brim with emotion and vulnerability. She and her husband also are the adoptive parents of a former foster child.

Howard's writing has a unique rhythm that feels choppy, even disjointed at first, but as the reader adjusts, her phrasing and word choices make each page sing. Not a single word is wasted here. There's no bloat. Her writing is spare and elegant, yet it beautifully conveys intensity and emotional depth.

When the narrator comforts her husband: "My lamb. Salty wet face, closed eyes. Writing side to side. . . And then his chest is heaving against my cheek, and the sound we are making is called a sob."

When Maresa throws a tantrum: "I am not baffled by this screaming girl, but my com-

AP PHOTO



"The Risk of Us," (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt) by Rachel Howard

prehension is no help. She is retching, she is shaking, she is spitting up bile." The only misstep comes near the end of the novel after what's called "the day of the policeman" and the parents reconsider adopting Maresa. But it's a small lapse in a simply gorgeous novel.

Kim Curtis, AP

TTUNES

SONGS ARE THE STARS AS WILL KIMBROUGH FOCUSES ON SOUTH

Given the opportunity to showboat, a masterful guitarist using Kickstarter to finance an album might be expected to let 'er rip on the record.

Not Will Kimbrough. He's a composer too, and on the fan-funded "I Like It Down Here," his songs are the stars and the South is the subject. An Alabama native who lives in Nashville, Tennessee, Kimbrough explores the region's beauty, ugliness and musical majesty. The snappy 10-tune set seamlessly mixes country, rock and soul in a way that sounds both rootsy and fresh.

Yes, there's some guitar from Kimbrough, who plays in Emmylou Harris' touring band. But as a successful session musician, he knows all about discipline in the studio.

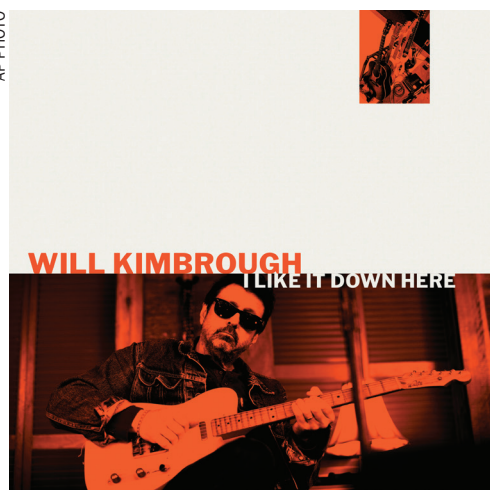
Kimbrough serves up a jaw-dropping solo on the girl-gone opener "Hey Trouble," but the chugging tempo invites a jam that never comes. Instead he keeps instrumental breaks short, fixing the spotlight instead on the characters populating

his songs.

That includes the whistling homeless man in "Anything Helps," the spiritually liberated convicted murderer in "Buddha Blues," the lynching victim singing from the grave in "Alabama (For Michael Donald)," and the salty lowbrow couple in the soulful title cut. The best of the lyrics linger, and hot licks aren't needed.

Steven Wine, AP

AP PHOTO



Will Kimbrough, "I Like It Down Here" (Daphne/Soundly Music)

A TOUCH OF ZEN



On a side street just steps away from the Regency Art Hotel in Taipa, Zen by Maquette is a beautiful small cafe located among colorful buildings. Those

who prefer light meals will be delighted with the fact that it serves Pita Bread filled with nutritious ingredients such as vegetables and lean meat. Common in Middle Eastern and

Mediterranean areas, the bread is made of wheat flour. The flat, round shape allows for a pocket in which elements like tomatoes and beef tuck in nicely.

Pasta dishes are also must-try items on the menu. Pasta with clams in white wine and spinach pasta with pine nuts are two signatures. Diners who prefer umami fla-

vors will marvel at the sight of a soupy, light sauce in which the clams and spaghetti are presented. Lastly, the sesame latte is a unique drink that is hard to find anywhere

else. The smooth, grey liquid imparts a smoky and nutty aroma in the mouth. The texture is similar to a regular latte, but with a different taste and minus the caffeine.

RESTAURANTS

CANTONESE



IMPERIAL COURT
Monday - Friday
11am - 3pm / 6pm - 11pm
Saturday, Sunday & Public Holidays
10am - 3pm / 3pm - 11pm
T: 8802 2361
VIP Hotel Lobby, MGM MACAU

BEIJING KITCHEN
Level 1, Grand Hyatt Macau
Opening Hours
11:30am - 2:30pm
5:30pm - 11:30pm



KAM LAI HEEN
Grand Lapa, Macau
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F
T: 8793 3821
11:00 - 15:00 / 18:00 - 22:00
(Close on Tuesday)

SHANGHAI MIN
Level 1, The Shops at The Boulevard
Opening Hours
11:00 - 15:00; 18:00 - 22:30

SHANGHAI

CATALPA GARDEN
Mon - Sunday
11:00 - 15:00 / 17:30 - 23:00
Hotel Royal, 2-4
Estrada da Vitoria
T: 28552222

FRENCH

寶雅座
AUX BEAUX ARTS

AUX BEAUX ARTS
Monday - Friday
6pm - 12midnight
Saturday - Sunday
11am - 12midnight
T: 8802 2319
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU

巴黎人
— BRASSERIE —
法式餐廳

BRASSERIE
Level 3, The Parisian Macao
Monday - Sunday:
11:00am - 11:00pm
Tel: +853 8111 9200

GLOBAL

CAFÉ BELA VISTA
Grand Lapa, Macau
T: 87933871
Mon -Thurs
06:30 - 15:00 / 6:00 - 22:00
Fri - Sunday
06:30 - 22:00

MEZZA9 MACAU
Level 3, Grand Hyatt Macau
Opening Hours
Dinner: 6:00pm - 10:30pm



VIDA RICA (RESTAURANT)
2/F, Avenida Dr Sun Yat Sen, NAPE
T: 8805 8918
Mon - Sunday
6:30 - 14:30 / 18:00 - 23:00



MORTON'S OF CHICAGO
The Venetian(r) Macao-Resort-Hotel
Taipa, Macau
T:853 8117 5000
mortons.com
• Bar
Open daily at 3pm
• Dining Room
Monday - Saturday: 13:00 - 23:00
Sunday: 17:00 - 22:00

ABA BAR

ABA BAR
5pm - 12midnight
T: 8802 2319
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU

COPA STEAKHOUSE
3/F, Sands Macao Hotel
OPENING HOURS:
Cocktails: 4:30 pm - 12:00 am
Dinner: 5:30 pm - 11:00 pm
Tel: +853 8983 8222



PASTRY BAR
10am - 8pm
T: 8802 2324
Level 1, MGM MACAU



Rossio
7am - 11pm
T: 8802 2372
Grande Praça, MGM MACAU



NORTH BY SQUARE EIGHT
11am - 1am
T: 8802 2388
Level 1, MGM MACAU



WELLNESS

FLAWLESS ENDEAVORS

Hyper-pigmentation or having unwanted dark spots on the skin is a very common issue among individuals. Due to excessive sun exposure, hormonal changes or inflammation, it is very easy to develop uneven skin tone, but fortunately, new technology available in the dermatological realm is now able to get rid of these problems without any side effects.

Recently, a pigment and rejuvenation machine named “PIQ04” has been specifically developed to target marks on skin. With high energies, it shatters darkness on skin and clears it away using four wave actions, promoting the skin to build more collagen as the same time. After just one visit to the dermatologist, skin texture and tone is both improved.



“Picosecond is a new era of laser treatment because it is a totally different technique compared with the traditional Nanosecond laser. It has the ability to treat a wide variety of skin conditions, including tattoo removal. Studies have shown the best method to break up pigment is to use both nano and picosecond laser pulses,” says certified dermatologist of Life Medical Center, Cynthia Wong.

Nano and Picosecond laser pulses shoot short bursts of energy to break large and deep pigment. Then, the doctor will rescan the treated area with Picosecond pulses, dismantling smaller and shallower particles. The combination results in better result than using one of the two on its own.



Cynthia Wong

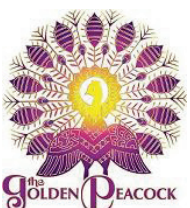

南苑
SOUTH
by SQUARE EIGHT
24hrs
T: 8802 2389
Level 1, MGM MACAU

ITALIAN
LA GONDOLA
Mon - Sunday
11:00am - 11:00pm
Praia de Cheoc Van, Coloane,
next to swimming pool
T: 2888 0156


PORTOFINO
Casino Level1, Shop 1039,
The Venetian Macao
TEL: +853 8118 9950


FW RIO GRILL & SEAFOOD MARKET
Tel: (853) 8799 6338
Email: riogrill_and_seafoodmarket@fishermanswharf.com.mo
Location: Cape Town, Macau Fisherman's Wharf

JAPANESE
SHINJI BY KANESAKA
Level 1, Crown Towers
Lunch 12:00 - 15:00
Dinner 18:00 - 23:00
Closed on
Tuesday (Lunch and Dinner)
Wednesday (Lunch)

ASIAN PACIFIC

GOLDEN PEACOCK
Casino Level1, Shop 1037,
The Venetian Macao
TEL: +853 8118 9696
Monday - Sunday:
11:00 - 23:00

PORTUGUESE
CLUBE MILITAR
975 Avenida da Praia Grande
T: 2871 4000
12:30 - 15:00 / 19:00 - 23:00

FERNANDO'S
9 Praia de Hac Sa, Coloane
T: 2888 2264
12:00 - 21:30

THAI
NAAM
THAI RESTAURANT
NAAM
Grand Lapa, Macau
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, The Resort
T: 8793 4818
12:00 - 14:30 / 18:30 - 22:30
(Close on Mondays)

BARS & PUBS

38 LOUNGE
Altrira Macau,
Avenida de Kwong Tung, 38/F Taipa
Sun-Thu: 13:00 - 02:00
Fri, Sat and Eve of public holiday:
15:00 - 03:00
R BAR
Level 1, Hard Rock Hotel
Opening Hours
Sun to Thu:
11:00 - 23:00
Fri & Sat:
11:00 - 24:00

THE ST. REGIS BAR
Level One, The St. Regis Macao
Cuisine: Light Fare
Atmosphere: Multi-Concept Bar
Setting: Refined, Inviting
Serving Style: Bar Menu
Dress Code: Casual
Hours: 12:00 PM - 1:00 AM; Afternoon Tea: 2:00PM - 5:30 PM
Phone: +853 8113 3700
Email: stregisbar.macao@stregis.com


D2
Macau Fisherman's Wharf
Edf. New Orleans III
Macau

VIDA RICA BAR
2/F, Avenida Dr. Sun Yat Sen, NAPE
T: 8805 8928
Monday to Thursday: 12:00 - 00:00
Friday: 12:00 - 01:00
Saturday: 14:00 - 01:00
Sunday: 14:00 - 00:00

VASCO
Grand Lapa, Macau
956-1110 Avenida da Amizade, 2/F
T: 8793 3831
Monday to Thursday: 18:30 - 12:00
Friday to Saturday: 18:00 - 02:00
Sunday: 18:00 - 24:00

WHAT'S ON



TODAY (APR 19)
BATHROOM WONDER

Big Mouse Kids Drama Group invites the parents of babies aged four months to 15 months to bring their tots for some fun in a giant bathtub. There, the kids can dance with shower puffs and toys. Bathroom Wonder, a theatre play for babies, features live music, puppets, and physical theatre in order to encourage the curiosity of babies and help them explore their surroundings. The performance lasts for approximately 35 mins, plus a 10-minute warm up, and 10 minutes for the adults to take some photographs.

TIME: 10:30am, 12:30pm, 3pm and 5pm
UNTIL: April 21, 2019

VENUE: Blackbox Theatre, Old Court Building
ADMISSION: MOP250 for one parent and one baby
MOP125 for the second parent or sibling

ORGANIZER: Big Mouse Kids Drama Group
www.bigmousekids.com
TICKETING SERVICE: (853) 2855 5555
www.macauticket.com



TOMORROW (APR 20)
EASTER CONCERT – HANDEL'S ORATORIO: MESSIAH

The Macau Orchestra has invited the Taipei Philharmonic Chorus and several singers from Korea to take part in a celebration at one of the city's best-known churches, in celebration of the Christian world's Easter. They are playing excerpts from what is a considered a classic in the history of Western religious music: "Messiah", by German-born Baroque composer George Frideric Handel. The Easter Concert led by conductor Lu Jia lasts for approximately one hour, with no interval.

TIME: 8pm
VENUE: St. Dominic's Church
ADMISSION: Free (tickets are distributed one hour before the performance at the concert venue; distribution is limited to a maximum of two tickets per person)
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2853 0782
ORGANIZER: Macau Orchestra
www.om-macau.org



AURÉLIEN PASCAL CELLO RECITAL

Macau Strings Association brings to town the renowned 24-year-old French cellist Aurélien Pascal for a concert with Taiwan pianist Jennifer Yu Han-Wen. The programme has a focus on French classical music, including two cello sonatas by, respectively, Claude Debussy and Francis Poulenc, as well as Jérôme Ducros' "Encore" for cello and piano. The concert additionally features, "Le Grand Tango" by Argentinian tango composer Astor Piazzolla. The performance lasts for one hour and 10 minutes, with no intermission.

TIME: 8pm
VENUE: Mirror Hall, Dom Pedro V Theatre
ADMISSION: MOP80
ORGANIZER: Macau Strings Association
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2825 2963
Facebook: macaustings
TICKETING SERVICE: (853) 2855 5555
www.macauticket.com



SUNDAY (APR 21)
PINOCCHIO

The Macau Cultural Centre celebrates its 20th anniversary this year and is marking the fact with a series of specially-selected performances. This month it is the turn of Pinocchio - the world's best-known marionette - to take to the stage. The production features contemporary dance and physical theatre and is suitable for the whole family. Carlo Collodi's classic story is brought to life by the Jasmin Vardimon Company, which is also holding a dance workshop for children and one for families. The show's length is approximately one hour and a half, with no intermission.

TIME: 7:30pm (April 20)
3pm (April 21)
VENUE: Grand Auditorium, Macau Cultural Centre
ADMISSION: MOP100, MOP140, MOP180
ORGANIZER: Macau Cultural Centre
ENQUIRIES: (853) 2870 0699
www.ccm.gov.mo
TICKETING SERVICE: (853) 2855 5555
www.macauticket.com



Thomas & The Little Big Club ALL STARS are stationed at Sands Cotai Central until the end of June. Visitors can meet some of the most popular characters from the world of children's entertainment, including Thomas The Tank Engine, purple dinosaur Barney, Angelina Ballerina and Mike The Knight. Available activities include a daily parade and meet-and-greet opportunities, plus an afternoon party.

THOMAS FRIENDSHIP PARTY
TIME: 3:30pm-5pm daily
VENUE: Urumqi Ballroom
ADMISSION: MOP100 (Children aged between 3 and 12: MOP80; prices subject to 10-percent service charge)

ALL STARS PARADE
TIME: 1:30pm daily
VENUE: Shoppes at Cotai Central
ADMISSION: Free
VENUE: Sands Cotai Central
ORGANIZER: Sands Cotai Central
ENQUIRIES: (853) 8118 3643
www.sandscotaicentral.com



TUESDAY (APR 23)
ITALIAN RENAISSANCE DRAWINGS FROM THE BRITISH MUSEUM

The exhibition Italian Renaissance Drawings from the British Museum comprises 52 drawings by 42 different masters, dating from 1470 to 1580, and representing artists working across the Italian peninsula, including Mantegna, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Titian, Raphael, and Rosso Fiorentino, among others. Divided into six sessions, namely The Human Figure, Movement, Light, Costume and Drapery, The Natural World, and Storytelling, the exhibition explores some of the themes that characterise Renaissance art, starting from the core study of the human form, to explore how artists brought life and dynamism to their compositions through the study of movement, light and shade, and costume.

TIME: 10am-7pm (no admission after 6:30pm; closed on Mondays and open on public holidays)
UNTIL: June 30, 2019
VENUE: Macau Museum of Art
ADMISSION: Free
ORGANIZERS: Cultural Affairs Bureau, Macau Museum of Art, The State Tretyakov Gallery
Enquiries: (853) 8791 9814
www.mam.gov.mo



2019 BRAND STORY
品牌的故事 - 澳門原創服裝展之二
Macao Original Fashion Exhibition II
História das Marcas
II Exposição de Vestuário Original de Macau
6/4 - 23/6
Lexx Moda

WEDNESDAY (APR 24)

2019 Brand Story – Macau Original Fashion Exhibition II

The “2019 Brand Story – Macau Original Fashion Exhibition II” features footwear label Lexx Moda and fashion brand ZICS. The Brand Story series of exhibitions is designed to showcase the creative stories of local fashion brands. Alongside the gallery display for this event is a sales area where the products of more than 20 local brands are available for purchase.

TIME: 10am-8pm (closed on Mondays, open on public holidays)

UNTIL: June 23, 2019

VENUE: Macau Fashion Gallery

ADMISSION: Free

ORGANIZERS: Instituto Cultural de Macau; Macau

Productivity and Technology Transfer Center

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 3341

www.Macaufashiongallery.com



THURSDAY (APR 25)

INK PAINTINGS BY YU JIAN

The exhibition, organized by Macau Foundation, showcases more than 40 pieces of Yu Jian's work. It aims to promote public appreciation of Chinese traditional art and to deepen cultural exchange between Macau and the mainland.

TIME: 11am-7pm

DATE: April 25-30, 2019

Venue: Macau Military Club

ADMISSION: Free

Enquiries: (853) 28727066

ORGANIZER: Macau Foundation

www.fmac.org.mo

Sands WEEKEND



SANDS MACAO ANNIVERSARY EXCLUSIVE MOP15* DINING OFFERS

Until 30 April 2019
Sands Macao

Enjoy special anniversary offers for just MOP15* at selected restaurants from now till 30 April! Enjoy this fabulous dining offer to celebrate 15 years since Sands Macao's opening. Book now for infinite flavours.

For more details visit www.sandsmacao.com or call +853 8983 8222

*Subject to 10% service charge.



THE BLACK PEARL MENU AT LA CHINE

Until 31 December 2019
Level 6, Eiffel Tower, The Parisian Macao

Indulge your palate with La Chine's Black Pearl Degustation Menu, featuring signature assorted appetisers, soup, main courses and dessert. Premium ingredients include dungenesss crab, Gillardeau oysters, suckling pig, Kagoshima wagyu sirloin, blue lobster, South African abalone cooked with passion and flair by our award winning chefs.

Time: 11am-3pm; 6pm-11pm

Price: MOP1,288*

Reservations: +853 8111 9210 or lachine.reservation@sands.com.mo

*Subject to 10% service charge.



BRUNCH EXTRAVAGANZA

Every Saturday
Shop 1039, Level 1, The Venetian Macao

It's your weekend and you deserve to treat yourself and the whole family to a fun-filled SATURDAY. Join us at Portofino for an unforgettable BRUNCH extravaganza and indulge in amazing Italian and Mediterranean dishes with the best selection of fresh seafood, live cooking stations, and the famous Venetian entertainment.

Time: 11:30am - 3:30pm

Price: Adult from MOP488* | Child from MOP245*

Reservations: +853 8118 9950 or portofino.reservation@sands.com.mo

*Subject to 10% service charge.



COTAI WATER JET 2019 BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION PROMOTION

Until 31 December 2019

Passengers whose birthdays are during the month of the purchase date and who are 12 years or above can show their valid Macao or Hong Kong ID, or international passport to enjoy a Cotai Class round trip ticket for HKD/MOP 259 or a Cotai First round trip ticket for HKD/MOP 469. This promotion only applies to Cotai Water Jet City Route.

Black-out Periods: 5-7 April, 19-22 April, 11-13 May, 7-9 June, 29 June to 1 July, 14-15 September, 5-7 October and 21-26 December of 2019.
Further details: www.cotaiwaterjet.com



澳門金沙度假區

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MACAO, COTAI STRIP

THE VENETIAN
澳門威尼斯人

THE PARISIAN
澳門巴黎人

Holiday Inn
HOLIDAY INN
澳門金沙中心酒店

CONRAD
MACAO, COTAI CENTRAL
澳門金沙中心康萊德酒店

Sheraton Grand
MACAO HOTEL
澳門金沙中心大酒店



The current flag of Thailand is known as **trairanga**, which means "tricolor." This national flag is raised every morning at 8:00 and lowered every evening at 6:00.

In a word

Thailand is officially known as the **Kingdom of Thailand**. The name means "land of the free," and appropriately, Thailand has never been conquered by another country.

Just the facts

Area	198,120 sq. mi. (513,120 sq. km)
Population	69,268,300
Capital city	Bangkok
Highest elevation	Doi Inthanon 8,415 feet (2,565 m)
Lowest elevation	Gulf of Thailand (sea level)
Monetary unit	hai baht
Agriculture	Rice, rubber, sugarcane, cassava, fruit, cashew nuts, corn, tobacco, cotton, cocoa, peanuts, soybeans, medical plants, dairy and fishery products
Major Industries	Tourism, textiles and garments, agricultural processing, beverages, tobacco, cement, light manufacturing such as jewelry and electric appliances, computers and parts, integrated circuits, furniture, plastics, automobiles and automotive parts
Mining	Coal, gold, lead, tin, tungsten, manganese, zinc and precious stones

Did you know?

Thailand is home to the world's largest gold Buddha and the largest crocodile farm.

Until 1939 (and again from 1946 to 1948), Thailand was called **Siam**.

Traffic police in Bangkok wear face masks because of dangerous levels of air pollution.

More than 1,500 species of **orchids** grow wild in Thai forests. Thailand is the world's No. 1 orchid exporter.

The **Ramakien** is the national epic narrative of Thailand and has influenced everyday Thai life for hundreds of years.

About 6 million foreign tourists visit Thailand every year.

To the people of Thailand, the head is the most important part of the body. It is considered extremely rude to touch someone on the head, even a child.

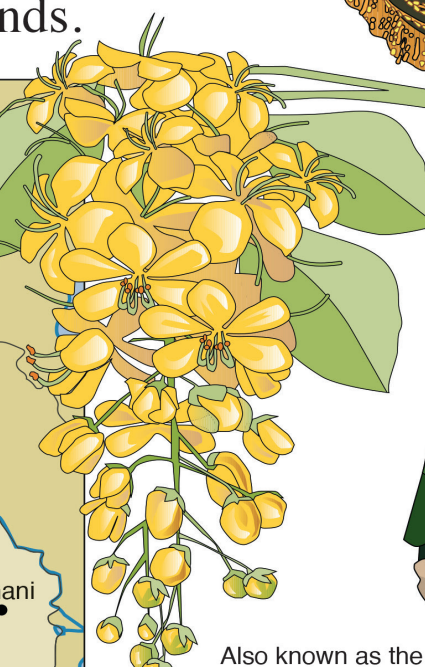
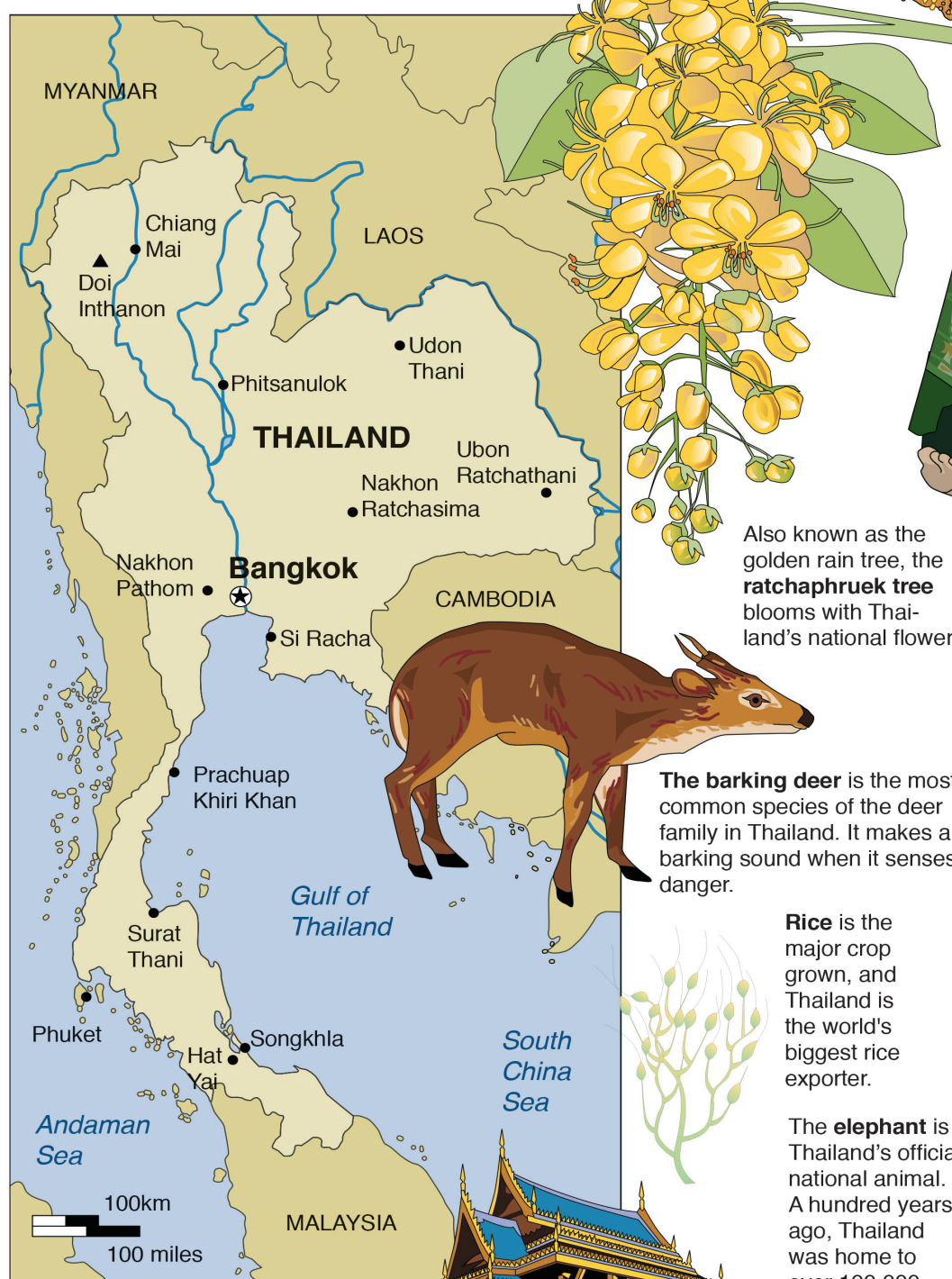
WORLD OF WONDER

THAILAND

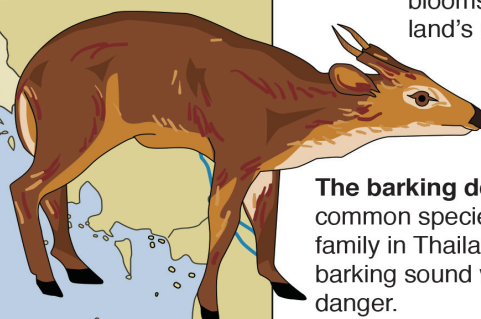
By Laurie Triefeldt

Exploring the realms of history, science, nature and technology

Located in the heart of mainland Southeast Asia, Thailand is a popular tourist destination and home to mountains, hills, plains, a beautiful long coastline and about 400 islands.



Also known as the golden rain tree, the **ratchaphruek tree** blooms with Thailand's national flower.



The **barking deer** is the most common species of the deer family in Thailand. It makes a barking sound when it senses danger.

Rice is the major crop grown, and Thailand is the world's biggest rice exporter.

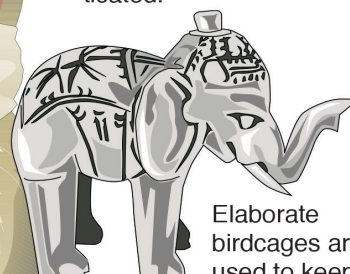
The **elephant** is Thailand's official national animal. A hundred years ago, Thailand was home to over 100,000 elephants. Today, the number has been reduced to about 5,000. More than half of these are domesticated.



Thailand is home to the world's smallest mammal, the **bumblebee bat**.

Thailand has more than 35,000 **Buddhist temples**.

Siamese cats are native to Thailand. In Thai, they are called *wichen-maat*, meaning "moon diamond."



Elaborate birdcages are used to keep pet doves.



The **Siamese fireback** is the national bird of Thailand.



Two major forms of **Thai classical dance** drama are khon and lakon nai.

Classical Thai dancing is an expression of traditional stories and religious themes and was once exclusively a royal entertainment.



Thai dancers hold their bodies very straight from the neck to the hips and move their bodies up and down with their knees bent to the rhythm of the music.

Food for thought

Thailand is known for its fabulous street food and fresh ingredients. Some Thai favorites include grilled meat skewers, fried chicken legs, som tam salad and many noodle dishes. If you're adventurous, you could try the fried insects or fried scorpions.

SOURCES: World Book Encyclopedia, World Book Inc.; <https://multiculturalkidsblogs.com>; <https://wildlifethailand.com>; <http://factsanddetails.com>; <https://www.tourismthailand.org>; <https://thaiembdc.org>

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