

Nurture meets nature

Trees, reed beds and water have their part to play in a new Laguna Phuket property project.

A LARGE bird rises from the reeds, and with a few flaps flies up effortlessly over the golf green and into a clear blue sky.

Sights like this are not unusual at Laguna Phuket most days. And before long, they will also become familiar at Laguna Village, the new residential development being constructed close to the resort precinct.

Replicating the leisurely lifestyle of Laguna Phuket is an important part of the process that is attracting buyers who wish to live in the secluded groves around the long lagoons in Laguna Village, as well as investors.

The project is also a vivid reminder of Laguna Phuket's own creation, when the whole of the area that is now covered in trees, shrubs and grasses was just a lifeless and spent abandoned tin mine. Overall, residential development today takes up less than 20 per cent of the space within the 600-acre Laguna Phuket resort.

Down the years, the change from desolation to delight has been breathtaking, with water being the key to restoring lush life: there are now broad vistas across 120 acres of lagoons, containing a million cubic metres.

Guests who stroll away from the beachfront or the golf course will quickly discover, as an increasing number of bicyclists in the precinct are finding, a vast network of paths and trails criss-crossing pleasant surroundings.

There is no shortage of wildlife now: more than 60 species of birds have been



Delightful now

spotted at Laguna Phuket and there are 30 species of fish in the lagoons. The whole verdant parkland is tended by 112 gardeners.

Similar attention is now being paid to restoring natural surroundings and wildlife at Laguna Village, along with an integrated design that will make the most of natural advantages.

The Village's Villas, semi-detached Townhomes and spacious island Residences will have many of the benefits of Laguna Phuket living: 24-hour security, a resort shuttle bus, complimentary membership of the Laguna Phuket Golf Club and a residents' privilege card that entitles owners to discounts at the resorts' five hotels, restaurants and spas.

Other, more subtle and integrated benefits will come with the creation of



Devastation then

the landscaped lagoon environment. As with the Laguna Phuket precinct, all the runoff rainwater from the guttering will flow into the lagoons.

While the island of Phuket has a chronic water supply problem, Laguna Phuket stores and uses its own rainwater and is a

model of self-sufficiency. Waste water is also treated and recycled, mostly onto the golf course.

One of the virtues of Laguna Phuket is that, as well as creating a pleasing environment from a desolate moonscape, recycling and environmental awareness have been integral to progress.

Even the use of fertilizer on the golf course is carefully managed to minimise runoff. If there is the need to remove any tree more than five years old, then the approval of senior management has to be sought.

Bang Tao beach is also being constantly renewed. "This land has been

good to us. We must take care of it," says Anthony Loh, who heads Laguna Service Company, the joint group that manages environmental issues at Laguna Phuket and will oversee Laguna Village.

The protective attitude extends to the reed beds that surround the lagoons and provide a natural filtering process. "There's an unwritten rule that nobody takes more than a reed or two for decoration because all staff understand their importance," Mr Loh said.

The same kind of balance and care is now going into the Laguna Village project.

Inquiries about properties for sale at Laguna Phuket should be made by telephoning 076-324 366 or stopping by at the Property Centre in Canal Village.



Laguna Village



Flock takes flight