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boats eight years ago, the event grew to 35 competitors last year, but has always preserved its small feel by maintaining a 40-boat maximum. On the first day as tradition goes, the boats started in Phuket and raced to Koh Yao. While the event usually includes a stop in Phi Phi, this year on the second day the competitors raced to Klong Muang beach, where the Sheraton Krabi Beach Resort sponsored a party for over 150 people. In addition to a 100,000 baht donation directly from Sheraton, the event also helped raise a sizeable amount of money for the relief efforts.



Cliff Weddings, Racing Regattas, and Wok Training 101
By Alma Freeman
(wedding photos courtesy of FLYER magazine www.yourkrabi.com)

The cliffs of Railay provided the perfect place to say "I do" this past Valentine's Day, with eight couples making it official perched 20 meters on a limestone cliff.



Organized by various climbing schools, the wild wedding tradition celebrated its second year this February. The couples were first transported by boat to the Phra Nang Cave for a 2-hour blessing ceremony. After lunch at the luxurious Rayavadee Resort, the couples donned their climbing wedding attire, white trousers for the women and suits for the men, and headed for Tonsai Bay. After climbing up a cliff, the couples exchanged their vows, and received the marriage certificate from a Krabi official (with the aid of a ladder!). The newlyweds then repelled down the rock intertwined, as onlookers showered them with rose petals and best wishes.

The Phang Nga Bay annual sailing regatta raced forward as usual Feb. 9-13, with 27 boats in competition. Starting out with just six

Continuing to Railay on the third day, the competitors raced to the finish line back in Phuket on the fourth and final day.



For those who may find all this sports activity a bit strenuous, the Krabi Thai Cookery School offers full and half-day classes for novices interested in creating their own Thai staples such as red and green curry sauces, spicy "som tum" salads, and introductions to the vast array of vegetables and exotic fruits Krabi Province has to offer. Nestled amongst rubber trees, banana trees and coconut palms, the school is just a 10 minute motorbike ride from the beaches of Ao Nang.

Uniquely fusing tourism with local charm, Ao Nang's central outdoor market one kilometer up the hill from the beachfront offers visitors a chance to purchase all those fresh ingredients for their next feast, or simply mingle with the locals picking up what's for dinner.

With such a variety of entertaining things to do and see, the tempo of Krabi province and Ao Nang is once again upbeat as more and more visitors are returning for its unmistakable charm and beauty.

Those interested in getting further information and links should log on to www.krabipost.com or contact editor@krabipost.com



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