



One of the floor-to-ceiling murals inspired by Thai art in Seven.

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REPORTS

SEVENTH HEAVEN Ten years ago most Bangkok lodgings were either big hotels or grimy backpacker dens. Things have changed, with a string of boutique hotels now offering a more intimate Thai experience. The latest is Seven. Tucked into a lane off Sukhumvit Soi 31, the six-roomed property was put together by designers including Studio Output from the UK and local Piyachanok Wijarn (who also did Leonardo DiCaprio's boutique hotel in Belize). Rooms – in the seven

colours that correspond to the seven days of the week in Buddhist philosophy (the seventh is the lobby) – feature murals inspired by Thai art. Big on personalised service, the hotel also offers guests a mobile phone with details on owner Pysin Sanguanpiyapand's favourite bars and eateries. "We like to think that Seven is more like a friend's house than a hotel," she says. *Seven, 3/15 Sukhumvit Soi 31, Bangkok; +66 2 662 0951; www.sleepatseven.com; doubles from \$130. – LEISA TYLER*