

# Baan Sabaijai Expanding

After more than four years of taking care of handicapped and physically impaired Norwegians, the founder of Baan Sabaijai, Oskar Jorgensen, is ready to expand.

By: Line Lagoni Leonhard

A large housing complex is being built right next to the original facilities of Baan Sabaijai in Pattaya, and this time it is for everyone with a dream of spending their retirement in an exotic location.

The new complex will host 40 apartments in different shapes and sizes and will be available to anyone who wants to buy.

"The building will begin when we have sold twenty apartments," Oskar Jorgensen says and continues:

"As of right now, we have sold five apartments, so we expect to be ready to start the construction during the summer."

Apart from the apartments, which are being built to meet the full requirements of the Norwegian Handicap Association, the housing complex will have a pool on top of the building, lifts large enough to hold a hospital bed, a garage below the apartments and bathrooms with enough space to wheel in a wheelchair or even a bed. Transportation for disabled people will also be available as well as training and therapy.



## A new form of living

Although all the apartments are designed to fulfil the needs of disabled people, being disabled is not a requirement to obtain an apartment.

"Some of the apartments already sold have been bought by retired couples who wish to spend their retirement in Thailand and who do not want to have to move once more if they suddenly become unable to take care of themselves," Oskar Jorgensen says.

Other apartments have been bought by younger people, who see it as an investment for their future lives.

What makes this housing complex unique compared to other apartments in Thailand is the fact, that not only will you be living among other Scandinavians; the apartment complex will also have a store with only Scandinavian products.

So if you want to lead a normal, western life in an exotic location, not having to worry about the possibility of home nursing or caretaking if needed be, then Baan Norway, as the project is named, may be the perfect opportunity.

## Low costs and the opportunity to sublet

Buying an apartment in the Baan Norway apartment complex may be perfectly affordable compared to spending your senior years at a retirement home in Scandinavia. The apartments can be purchased



from the amount of only 2,2 million Thai baht, or the equivalent to about 395.000 Norwegian kroner. And a 24 hour caretaker can be hired for the sum of only 10.000 Thai Baht (or 1800 Nkr.) If you need to finance the buy somehow, Oskar Jorgensen has made an agreement with a Thai bank, to finance the funding. He is the first foreigner with this kind of project to get a funding arrangement with a Thai bank.



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Should anyone want to use their apartment only in periods at a time, they can sublet the apartments to Baan Sabaijai during the time they are not using their apartment. This also means the opportunity for more clients to the Baan Sabaijai project.

The Baan Norway apartments can also be purchased by Scandinavian local authorities and then be sublet periodically to Scandinavians, who do not wish to buy the apartments themselves. Again taking into consideration the possibility of renting the apartments to Baan Sabaijai in periods where the apartments are not otherwise occupied.

This also makes it possible to sublet the apartments to disabled people, who wants to take a vacation, but is in no way able to do so without proper therapy.

A possibility to better life quality. The original concept behind starting Baan Sabaijai was the possibility of offering handicapped or disabled Scandinavians a chance of a better life quality. This is a concept also built into the Baan Norway project.

"A lot of the people who are living at Baan Sabaijai right now are far too severely disabled to find some kind of normal housing here in Thailand, if they wish to stay here. That is a part of the idea behind starting Baan Norway", Oskar Jorgensen says.

The concern for the housing problems of the Baan Sabaijai