

Radar



Cronuts, Southeast Asian-style, at Café Mozu.

TRENDING

Faux-nuts

The New York's confection craze hits Southeast Asian shores.

By Diana Hubbell

Naysayers have called it the world's most overhyped pastry, but it is rare to see a puff of dough launch a black market. When Dominique Ansel came up the "cronut"—a deep-fried croissant gussied up with icing and a cream filling—hordes of New Yorkers lined up outside his bakery and scalpers started hawking them Craigslist.

The official cronut is trademarked, but it didn't take long for flaky, fried copycats to start popping up—thankfully, for a region full of sweet-tooths, all over Asia. **Brunetti** (*Tanglin Mall, 163 Tanglin Rd., Singapore; 65/6733-9088; S\$4.50*) sells variations with Nutella or vanilla custard topped

with chopped pistachios, while over in Thailand **Café Mozu** (*lebu at State Tower, Bangkok; 66-2/624-9555; lebu.com; breakfast Bt600 per person*) is all about tropical flavors like passion fruit and coconut. Manila's **Wildflour Café + Bakery** (*4th Ave. GF Netlima Bldg, Global City; 63-2/856-7600; 120 pesos*) sticks close to the cronut's small-batch roots, as does **Swissbeck** (*GF Cochrane St., Amber Lodge, 23 Hollywood Rd., Central; 852/3421-0438; swissbeck.hk; HK\$30*) in Hong Kong; although the labor-intensive pastries usually sell out before lunchtime, Swissbeck continues to bake only around 100 a day. So queue up early.

Confessions of a Honeymoon Planner

We got the scoop from a veteran travel agent specializing in romantic getaways. Turns out the job's not all champagne and rose petals.

I was working with one couple over e-mail, and **they couldn't agree on anything**. They actually ended up breaking up over e-mail—and I was cc'd!

A couple showed up to an appointment to finalize their plans in the Maldives. **The bride and I had everything planned**; they just had to choose a hotel. When we started discussing it, the groom blurted out, "Wait—I thought we were going to Italy!"

I once had clients come home from Bora-Bora three days early, **because they were bored**. Bored! In Bora-Bora!

GOODS

BETTER THAN BAREFOOT

Slip right into island time by strapping on a pair of **Bridget Sandals**. Created in Jamaica by former model and Playboy Bunny Bridget Brown, they're seen on the island's most fashionable feet. (Reggae royal Rita Marley is a fan.)

We love the Rose, with its gladiator ankle wraps and a leather rosette that blooms between your toes. bridgetsandals.net; from US\$95.

—SARAH GREAVES-GABBADON



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: COURTESY OF CAFE MOZU; TOM SCHIERLITZ