THE GO LIST

Your travel news and deals from around the world



1 X2 Chiang Mai Nimman Villa, Thailand

With seven bedrooms, this new villa property in Chiang Mai city centre is made for group holidays. Designed with a modern retro theme, the villa features Scandinavian-style teak furniture, a living room with LCD TV, an entertainment room with a home theatre system and pool table, a fully equipped kitchen and dining room, and a private rooftop sundeck with barbecue facilities and a large Jacuzzi.

If you do decide to venture out, Nimmanhaemin Street, where the villa is located, is the trendy part of town where you'll find coffee shops, tea houses, wine bars, cool restaurants and boutiques. X2resorts.com/villas/chiang-mai-nimman

Book a minimum of four out of the seven rooms in the villa from THB15,000++ (about RM1,752)

2 Neon Lights festival, Singapore

For its first edition, the new Neon Lights music and arts festival, held across two days (Nov 28-29) at Fort Canning Park, sure knows how to make a grand first impression. For a start, the music line-up is stellar. We have American singersongwriter Rachel Yamagata, English ambient-folk rock trio Daughter, Australian alt-dance trio RÜFÜS and American indie-pop darlings The Pains of Being Pure at Heart, to name a few. There are other side shows too, including comedy, a fringe spoken word festival (Lit Up @ Neon Lights) featuring Francesca Beard, plus an arts and craft workshop series for children called NeonKids. neonlights.sg

Single-day tickets: adult, SGD150 (about RM448); youth, SGD90 (about RM269); child, SGD25 (RM75). Two-day advance weekend tickets: adult, SGD240 (about RM717); youth, SGD150 (about RM448); child, SGD40 (RM120).



3 Hotel Vagabond, Singapore This new luxury boutique hotel located between Little India and Kampung

This new luxury boutique hotel located between Little India and Kampung Glam is rather showy, but that's only to be expected of a hotel that revolves around art, be it sculptures, photography or even performance art. Designed by famed French designer Jacques Garcia (known widely for his designs of Hotel Costes in Paris and NoMad in New York), the hotel features many specially commissioned art works from artisans around the world – the solid brass Rhino reception desk, for example, took 15 villages in Rajasthan (India) eight months to create.

There are 42 rooms and suites in the 1950 Art Deco building but the heart of the hotel is the salon. Draped in red velvet curtains, this opulent, theatre-like venue is where you can dine among a performance, watch an indie film or listen to a jazz quartet. Vagabond is also the only hotel in the region to host an artist residency programme emphasising on writing, photography and performance art. And come 6pm, you can mingle with the artists during the cocktail hour to learn more about their work. hotelvagabondsingapore.com

Rooms from SGD\$355++ (about RM1,057)



4 Hotel des Arts Saigon, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam All decked out in timeless French

style, as a homage to the city's past, the luxurious Hotel des Arts Saigon is centrally located in Ho Chi Minh City, within walking distance to the Notre Dame Cathedral, the Opera House, the historic Saigon Central Post Office and several other major attractions. The 168 rooms and suites are tastefully designed, and they come complete with plush beds with goose-feather comforters, 50-inch LCD TVs and free WiFi. The hotel also features a spa, a gym and the city's highest infinity pool which, by night, will transform into an outdoor lounge with breathtaking views over the city. mgallery.com

Special opening rate of USD120++ (about RM506) is valid until Dec 26



5 Oriental Residence Bangkok

For a pampering holiday in Bangkok, Oriental Residence's 'Bangkok Shopping Experience' package offers two nights' stay in a one-bedroom suite (with park view) from THB12,269 (about RM1,441). It includes daily breakfast, complimentary shopping gift card worth THB1,500 (about RM176) to use at any Central Department Store, one-day BTS Skytrain pass for two persons, shuttle service to the swanky Central Embassy mall and WiFi. Oriental Residence is located in the upscale, embassy neighbourhood of Wireless Road, which is close to the central shopping district. oriental-residence.com

Offer ends Dec 31