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Surprising Singapore hotels that will delight and inspire



By Daven Wu | Presented by Singapore Tourism Board · Jul 3rd, 2016









Hidden among the high-end chains that rise from the Lion City are quirky and inspirational hotels to delight any traveller. Who needs rooftop swimming pools and 15 restaurants when you could have a Philippe Starck-designed lobby, a spaceship-themed bedroom, or one-of-a-kind artwork?

Wanderlust

The trip down the rabbit hole



This is one of local hotelier Loh Lik Peng's first hotels in Singapore, and it's easily his most eye-catching. Located amidst the clamour and colour of Little India, the

fantastical four-storey, 29-room Wanderlust was built in the 1920s and was once a school. While the façade has been preserved, the exuberant interiors have been reimagined by a crack team of Singaporean designers and architects, each of whom was responsible for one floor. Guests never know what to expect — one floor features industrial glam-themed décor with Frank Gehry sofas alongside Trent Jansen seats, while another boasts giant typewriter installations on the walls, whose keys loom out in 3D like spider legs. Our favourite might be the one dedicated to Japanese whimsy, with undulating ceilings inspired by origami paper folds, but kids will go mad for the rocket-themed Red Spaceship and Grey Spaceship loft rooms.

Image: Wanderlust

2 Dickson Road, Singapore. 209494.

T:+65 6396 3322

E:WLH-Res@unlistedcollection.com

Website

Follow On f \checkmark \bigcirc \bigcirc Location

Lloyd's Inn

The hidden oasis



This little gem is hidden away in the midst of a residential neighbourhood, just a few doors from the home of Singapore's late Prime Minister, Lee Kuan Yew. The innocuous high-walled street entrance opens up into a lushly landscaped time capsule that's part-1960s and part-Jetsons in its all-white colour scheme and

minimalist furnishings. The rooms are connected by open-air corridors, but the knockout feature is the outdoor bathrooms that let in fresh air, rain and birdsong. The swimming pool is especially retro, with raw concrete finishings, a daybed and a frame of thick greenery. It all makes for a perfect tropical escape even though the hustle of Orchard Road is just minutes away.

Image: <u>Lloyd's Inn</u>

2 Lloyd Road, Singapore. 23909.

T:+65 6737 7309

E:mail@lloydsinn.com

Website

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Q Location

Hotel Vagabond

The Parisian retreat



A row of period shophouses in the Malay-Arab Quarter has been transformed into a louche, fantastical bolthole by Jacques Garcia — the French designer behind Hotel Costes in Paris, Venice's Danielli and Marrakech's La Mamounia. The public spaces are an eye-popping stage-set where Alice in Wonderland meets Moulin Rouge. The lobby, furnished with giant elephants and rhinos, leads to a salon framed with thick blood-red drapes, brass columns shaped like Banyan trees, and specially commissioned video art. In contrast, the rooms, lined with soft fabrics,

hand-painted wall panels, and photographs by the hotel's jet-setting owner, are a cool and quiet oasis.

Image: Hotel Vagabond

39 Syed Alwi Road, Singapore. 207630.

T:+65 6291 6677

E:info@hotelvagabondsingapore.com

Website

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Q Location

M Social Singapore

The big-name boutique



When you get French Designer Philippe Starck to design your hotel, the result can only be a whole lot of fun. The French interiors maestro has turned a relatively plain building on the edge of the Singapore River into a colourful yet sophisticated playpen for adults. Thanks to a peaked ceiling and a liberal use of mirrors, glass and shiny stainless steel trim, the sexily intimate rooms (coyly described as 'snuggish') seem bigger than they are — not that you would spend too much time in them when the downstairs lounge and restaurant feature live music, a pool table and a terrific fusion menu. Diners will be delighted by wok-fried vermicelli and white clams, crispy pork knuckles with Asian slaw, and jasmine and osthmanthus infused bouillabaisse.

Image: M Social Singapore

90 Robertson Quay, Singapore. 238259.

T:+65 6206 1888

E:reservations.mss@millenniumhotels.com

Website

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Q Location

Shangri-La's Rasa Sentosa Resort & Spa

The resort with a difference



The goodies seem to never stop coming at Singapore's only beachfront resort. While the adults lounge by the pool, the tykes are happily engaged with a giant treehouse, ball pit, and complimentary lunch and dinner buffet served from supercute scaled-down kid-height counters. The menu of activities is a guaranteed crowd-pleaser — think flying trapezes, table tennis, beach volleyball, kayaking, paddle-boats, and a Teens Zone stocked with Xbox, foosball table, air hockey and an F1 Simulator.

Image: Shangri-La's Rasa Sentosa Resort & Spa

101 Siloso Road, Sentosa, Singapore. 098970.

T:+65 6275 0100

Website

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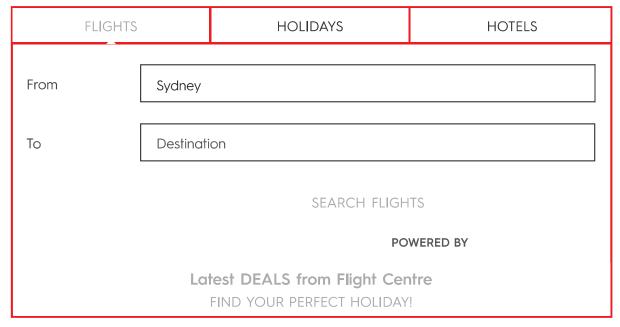
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