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BEST NEW HOTELS IN SINGAPORE 2015: TOP 8 PLACES TO EAT, SLEEP, AND SPA. STAYCAY ALERT!



*Need to take a load off and chillax? We've sussed out some of the hottest new hotels at Ann Siang Hill Orchard Road Sentosa and more*



Hotel Jen Orchardgateway Singapore

Trusty room service, vast pools, heavenly spas and swish fine dining are just some of our favourite perks of any hotel stay. Whether you're a tourist looking for convenience and creature comforts or taking a well-earned, year-end staycation, our list of 2015's hottest new hotels is certain to get you in the mood for a holiday!

#### Hotel Vagabond

If you've ever fancied yourself a character from any Wes Anderson film (perhaps a tortured artist hiding away in search of inspiration?), this would be the hotel to play out that fantasy in. The luxury boutique hotel features Jacques Garcia's bizarre, Art Deco styling that incorporates brass elephant statues and a reception desk shaped like a rhino. This art hotel's most unique feature is undoubtedly its Artist in Residence programme, where noteworthy artists get invited to stay in the hotel for up to three months to work on a piece of art. At the end of their artistic getaway, they'll get the opportunity to showcase their artwork or performance at the hotel's Parisian-inspired Vagabond Salon. Gourmands with a penchant for charcuterie boards and meat-heavy meals can also get their carnivorous fix at the acclaimed 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter restaurant.

*Hotel Vagabond, 39 Syed Alwi Road, Singapore 207630. p. 6291 6677.*

#### The Club

We twiddled our thumbs in excitement when The Club Hotel, a long-time fixture on Ann Siang Road, got an upbeat, funky facelift this year. The renovation saw the hotel's plain white façade swapped for a colourful new look and a revamped interior to match. Step through its doors and you're greeted by the hotel's laid-back mix of minimalistic, industrial décor. Located in the hip Ann Siang district, you'll never be short of late night distractions too. Don't feel like leaving the hotel (we won't blame you, the décor is swell)? Head down to The Disgruntled Chef for a bite then pop by Mr & Mrs Maxwell's for some post-

dinner tipples.

*The Club, 28 Ann Siang Road, Singapore 069708. p. 6808 2188.*

### The South Beach

The latest addition to Singapore's iconic skyline, The South Beach, boasts 654 Philippe Starck-designed rooms. If you're already savvy with Starck's design sensibilities, you'll know you can expect an eclectic mix of playful, modern furnishings. The hotel's blend of creative design and high-tech fixtures helps The South Beach strike the perfect balance between work and play. If you're on a work trip and are the type that's more productive sitting alone in a crowded coffee shop, this is the hotel for you. Built around the concept of "being alone, together", the hotel provides social spaces that'll get those creative juices flowing. And when you're ready to take a break, kick back at the hotel's all-day-dining restaurant or lounge at one of its three bars.

*The South Beach, 30 Beach Road, Singapore 189763. p. 6818 1888.*

The Galleria at Mövenpick Heritage Hotel Sentosa



### Mövenpick Heritage Hotel Sentosa

You're going to have a pretty tough time working up the resolve to even leave the Mövenpick Heritage Hotel's Onsen Suite! This elegantly appointed room comes equipped with a massive Japanese-style hot tub and an outdoor lounge space. When all that simmering in the tub has worked up a hearty appetite, tuck into some gourmet Euro-Asian fusion cuisine at the hotel's flagship restaurant, Tablescape. Looking for a particularly illusive dram of Scotch? With over 250 bottles of the finest rare whiskies, chances are World of Whisky (WoW) will have that bottle of smoky Scottish nectar you've been searching for. The hotel was recently awarded Asia's Top Heritage Hotel by Now Travel Asia Awards, as well as Best Luxury Family Hotel by Now Travel Asia and World Luxury Hotel Awards. Needless to say, this one's a winner!

*Mövenpick Heritage Hotel Sentosa, 23 Beach View, Singapore 098679. p. 68183388.*

### Hotel Yan

Backpackers who'd rather stave off the option of a budget inn will find lots to love at Hotel Yan. Set amidst the ethnic enclaves of Kampung Glam and Little India, this industrial-chic boutique hotel offers plenty of opportunities for guests to take in Singapore's rich cultural heritage. When you're done exploring the vibrant neighbourhood, you can look forward to cosy, intimate rooms that blend modern amenities with a touch of affluent living.

*Hotel Yan, 162 Tyrwhitt Road, Singapore 207581. p. 6805 1955.*

### Park Hotel Alexandra

A hop, skip and a jump away from the city, Park Hotel Alexandra offers guests a peaceful haven from the stresses of urban living. Take a dip in the hotel's 25m infinity pool while enjoying the beautiful city vista. Then, do your best Ursula Andress impersonation as you swim up and grab a drink at the hotel's wet bar. Running with the urban oasis theme are the hotel's rooms, which feature warm accents and natural tone furnishings that'll put all your city slicker troubles behind you.

*Park Hotel Alexandra, 323 Alexandra Road, Singapore 159972. p. 6828 8888.*

### Hotel Jen Orchardgateway Singapore

Want to keep close to the shopping action? Book a room right in the heart of Orchard Road and make those bargain hunting jaunts that much easier. When you've tired yourself out from some intense shopping, settle in for some comforting local and international fare at its fuss-free dining joint, Makan@Jen. If you think this urban hotel skimps on the traditional resort-like fixings, a quick dip in the infinity pool will prove you wrong. While you're certainly spoilt for choice as far as nightlife goes, the hotel's poolside bar offers some stellar views and terrific tipples for homebodies who'd rather not venture out for drinks.

*Hotel Jen Orchardgateway Singapore, 277 Orchard Road, Singapore 238858. p. 6708 8888.*

### Sofitel Singapore Sentosa Resort and Spa

Perched upon the cliffs at Sentosa's Tanjong Beach is where you'll find this ritzy island getaway. Take in the spectacular view of the South China Sea and the lush greenery in one of 215 luxurious rooms, suites and villas. Beach bums who want to splash around will appreciate the easy access to Sentosa's lovely white sand beaches for all their aquatic activities. And when you're done frolicking in the surf, sort out those hunger pangs with some fine Pan-Asian cuisine at Kwee Zeen's breezy outdoor deck. Of course, what tropical island retreat would be complete without a trip to the spa? Treat yourself at So Spa with its wide range of indulgent beauty treatments that'll leave you feeling refreshed and rejuvenated.

*Sofitel Singapore Sentosa Resort and Spa, 2 Bukit Manis Road Sentosa, Singapore 099891. p. 6275 0331.*



DINESH AJITH, Lifestyle Writer, is a pop culture junky with a penchant for puns, alliteration and witty one-liners. When not watching Blade



Runner for the millionth time, he can be found perched over a bowl of ba chor mee at the nearest coffee shop.

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