



SAWASDEE



{ CITY GUIDE }

THIS IS SINGAPORE

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Singapore's sleepy
offshore island

Day Trip

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Food souvenirs to
take home

Shopping

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The most innovative
cocktail bars

Food & Drink

CURATOR'S NOTE

Though only 58 years old, Singapore has emerged in recent decades as an exemplary city in many ways. It was already well-regarded for its forward-thinking urban planning, comprehensive public transportation and sturdy economy. But over the past 10 years, it has also shed its “Singapore” image and become a “capital of cool”.

It's easy to see why: along with its tech-forward developments, the city has retained the heritage and multiculturalism that makes it so unique, through multimillion-dollar restorations of old buildings, attractive museums, conserved heritage neighborhoods and even offshore islands.

These are just some of the reasons to visit. There's also of course the dizzying cocktail bar scene and the diversity of food. In fact, food is so intrinsic to any trip to Singapore, we've offered a nearby restaurant tip for every attraction we've recommended in this guide.

Enjoy exploring, and eating! – *Mrigaa Sethi*

Singapore's high-tech ambitions are on full display from the moment you land. Save time to visit the HSBC Rain Vortex at Jewel Changi Airport.





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IN THIS ISSUE

A city unlike any other, Singapore is a treasure trove not only of glittering skyscrapers and award-winning cocktails but also multicultural heritage.

CHAPTERS OF HISTORY

From fishing village to colonial port to a city-state of the future, explore the story of Singapore through its world-class museums



Modern city, rural village

Spend a day on Pulau Ubin, Singapore's "kampong-style" offshore island



A MARRIAGE OF CULTURES

A counterpoint to its skyscrapers, Singapore's low-rise ethnic neighborhoods are a great way to explore the city's multicultural spirit



Kampong Glam's glorious past

Writer and historian Khir Johari on Singapore's vibrant Malay quarter



Spotlight on Singapore fashion

Heritage crafts, sustainable practices and tropical glamor inspire these three contemporary labels



HIGH SPIRITS

In addition to its dizzying variety of food, Singapore is a major cocktail capital. Check out this flight of its most beautiful and innovative bars



Need for Speed

Singapore's annual F1 Grand Prix night race is a major nightlife event

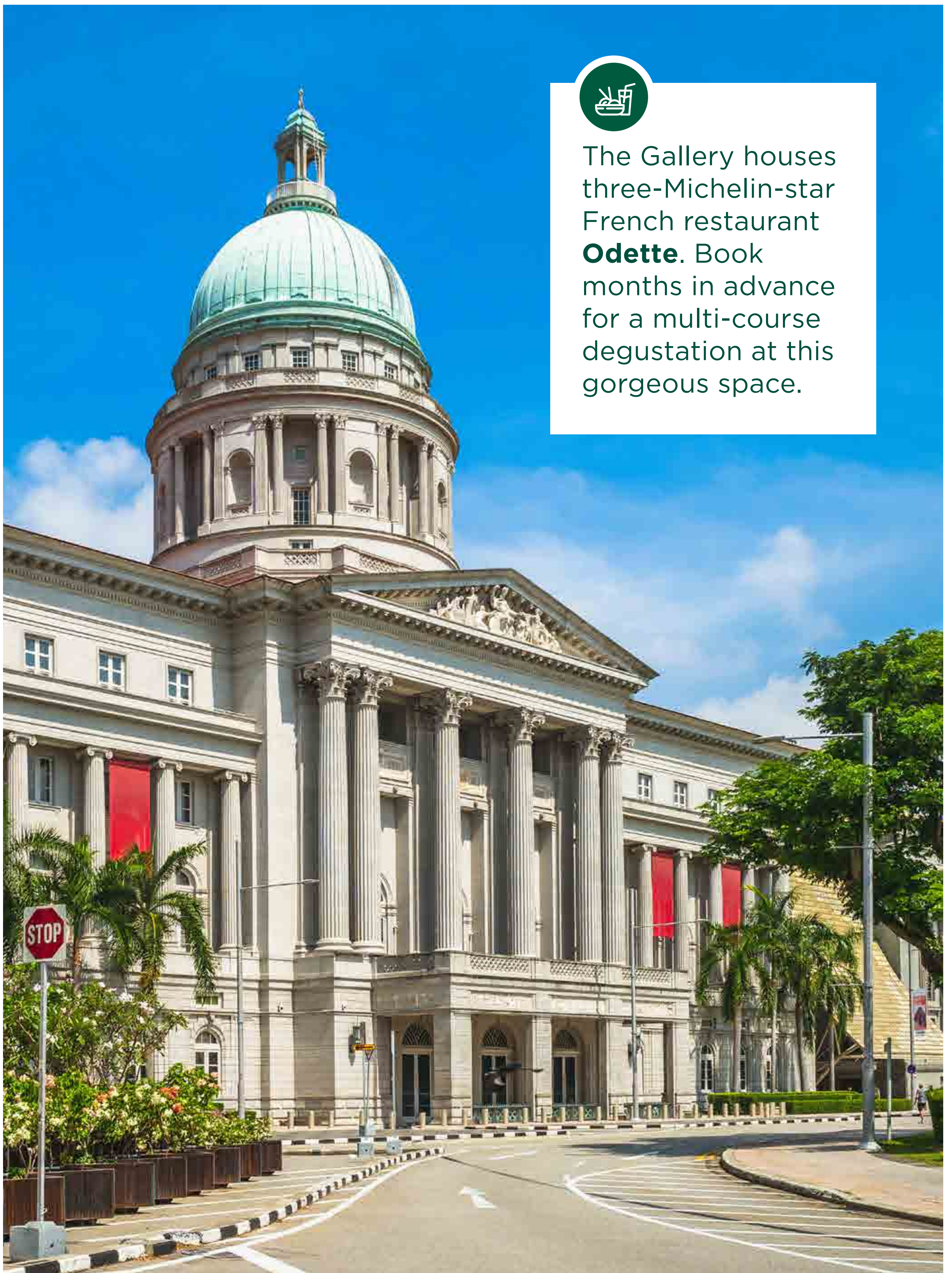




CHAPTERS OF HISTORY

Despite its young age, Singapore has been through many interesting eras. From its colonial heritage to its contemporary relationship with nature and technology, these museums tell the story.





The Gallery houses three-Michelin-star French restaurant **Odette**. Book months in advance for a multi-course degustation at this gorgeous space.

NATIONAL GALLERY SINGAPORE

You don't have to be an art-lover to be dazzled by this colonial building that brings together the world's largest collection of Southeast Asian modern art with award-winning eateries. An ambitious restoration of Singapore's former Supreme Court and City Hall buildings, the Gallery offers family-friendly programs and hands-on activities as well.



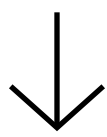
PERANAKAN MUSEUM

Singaporean life is peppered with Peranakan culture, and this intimate museum, located in a beautiful, early-1900s building, explores the history, homes, rituals, food and clothing of maritime Southeast Asia’s syncretic ethnic group. The museum reopened this year after a renovation and now has a big focus on contemporary Peranakan culture as well.



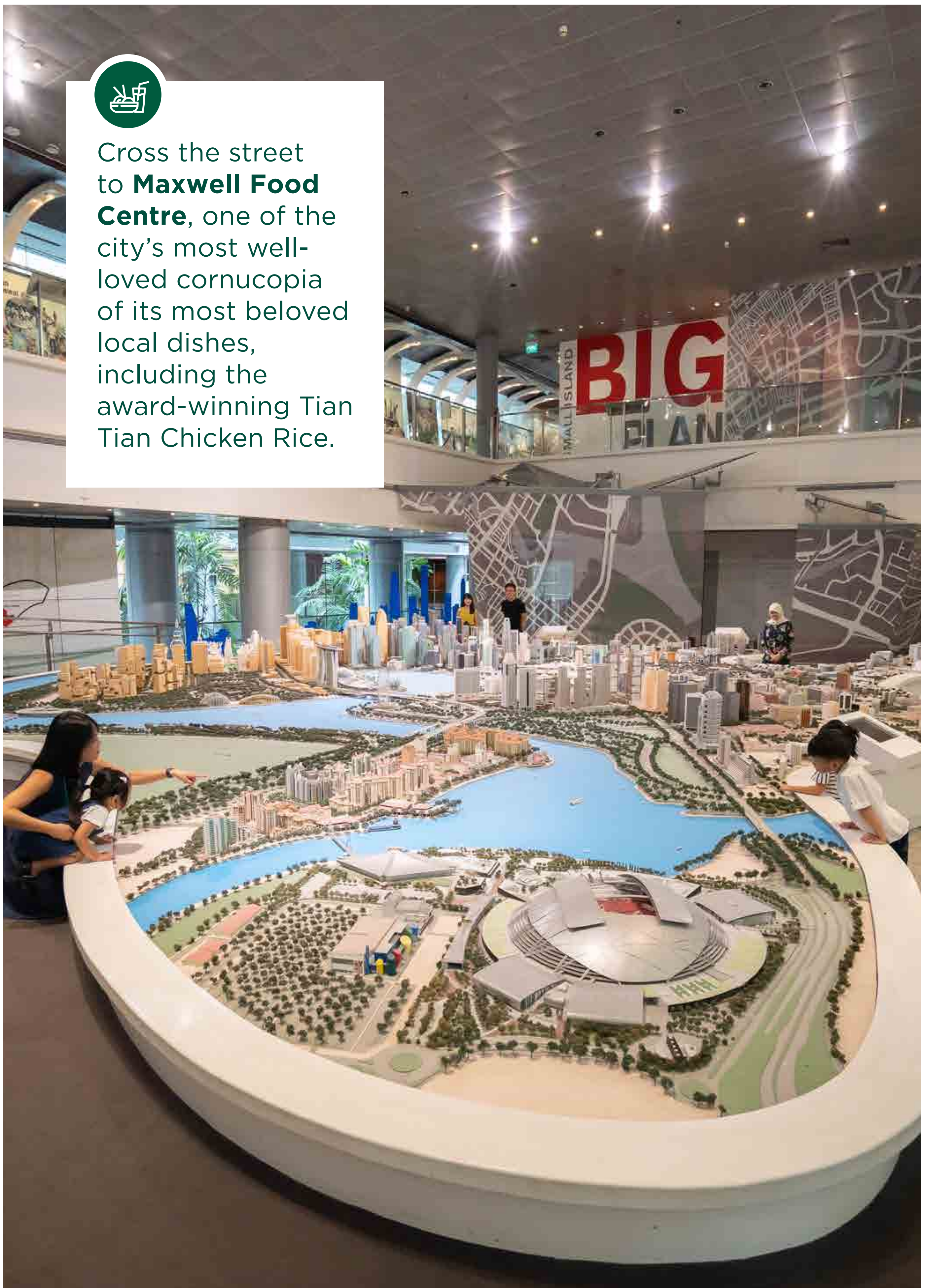
Taste the flavours of Peranakan cuisine right at the sun-drenched **True Blue** restaurant, located on-site at the museum.

PHOTO BY PERANAKAN MUSEUM





Cross the street to **Maxwell Food Centre**, one of the city's most well-loved cornucopia of its most beloved local dishes, including the award-winning Tian Tian Chicken Rice.



SINGAPORE CITY GALLERY

Singapore is an impressive case study in urban-planning, and this is the perfect place to appreciate the foresight and ingenuity that have gone into making this one of Asia's most livable cities. Through interactive models and displays, learn about the city's digital transformation, land management and even water conservation efforts.



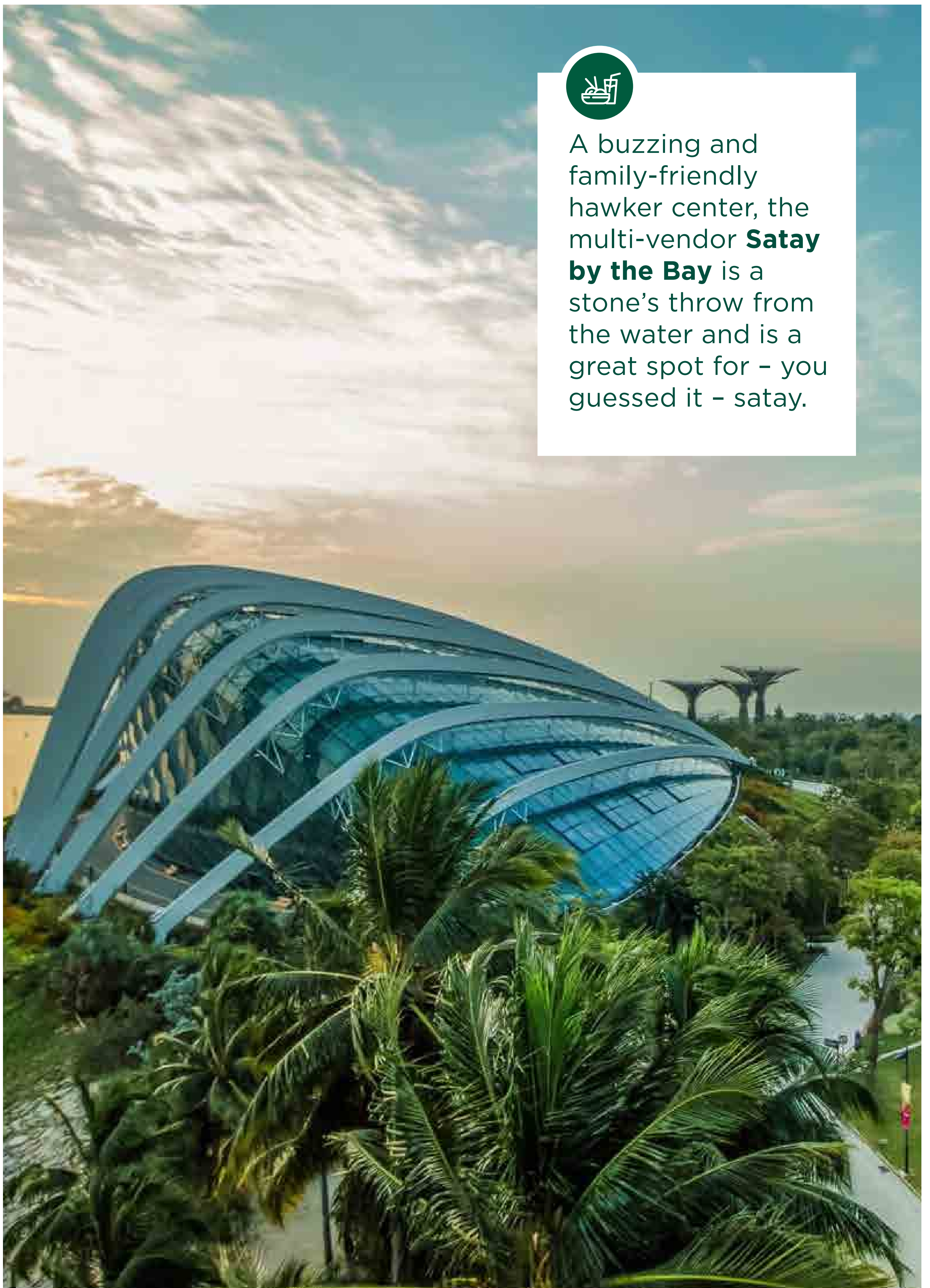


Next to the museum, Shoppes at Marina Bay is home to celeb restaurants such as **CUT by Wolfgang Puck** and **Bread Street Kitchen** by Gordon Ramsay.

ARTSCIENCE MUSEUM

From Singapore's early history, we move on to its relationship with science and technology. This iconic museum – resembling a giant concrete lotus next to Marina Bay – houses some very Instagrammable exhibitions, such as the VR Gallery and Future World, a series of interactive digital installations in collaboration with famed Japanese art collective teamLab.





A buzzing and family-friendly hawker center, the multi-vendor **Satay by the Bay** is a stone's throw from the water and is a great spot for – you guessed it – satay.

GARDENS BY THE BAY

The unmistakable glowing Supertrees that punctuate the Singapore skyline are just one part of this award-winning horticultural oasis. Check out plants and trees from climates across the world at its massive cooled conservatories: Cloud Forest and Flower Dome. Or explore the themed gardens that dot this 101ha slice of paradise.



Modern city, rural village

Sentosa is perhaps Singapore's most famous offshore island. But a short ferry ride away lies a very different, slow-paced experience – and a window into Singapore's rural past



Before Singapore became a gleaming metropolis, it was said to be a sleepy fishing village. While all evidence of that past has disappeared under modernization, the offshore island of **Pulau Ubin** remains a serene reminder of the old times. Take a short ferry ride from Changi Point Ferry Terminal and spend the day exploring the island on foot or by bicycle. Highlights include exploring the Chek Jawa Wetlands, a guided kayaking tour among mangroves and hiking up Puaka Hill for outstanding views of Pulau Ubin's old quarries.



5 delicious souvenirs from Singapore

From fusion desserts to craft spirits, the city's food producers offer a variety of unique and tasty items to enjoy back home



Rendang
meat spice
blend from
*Anthony the
Spice Maker*



Tropical calamansi
marmalade
from *Straits Preserves*

Butterfly
pea gin
from
*Brass Lion
Distillery*



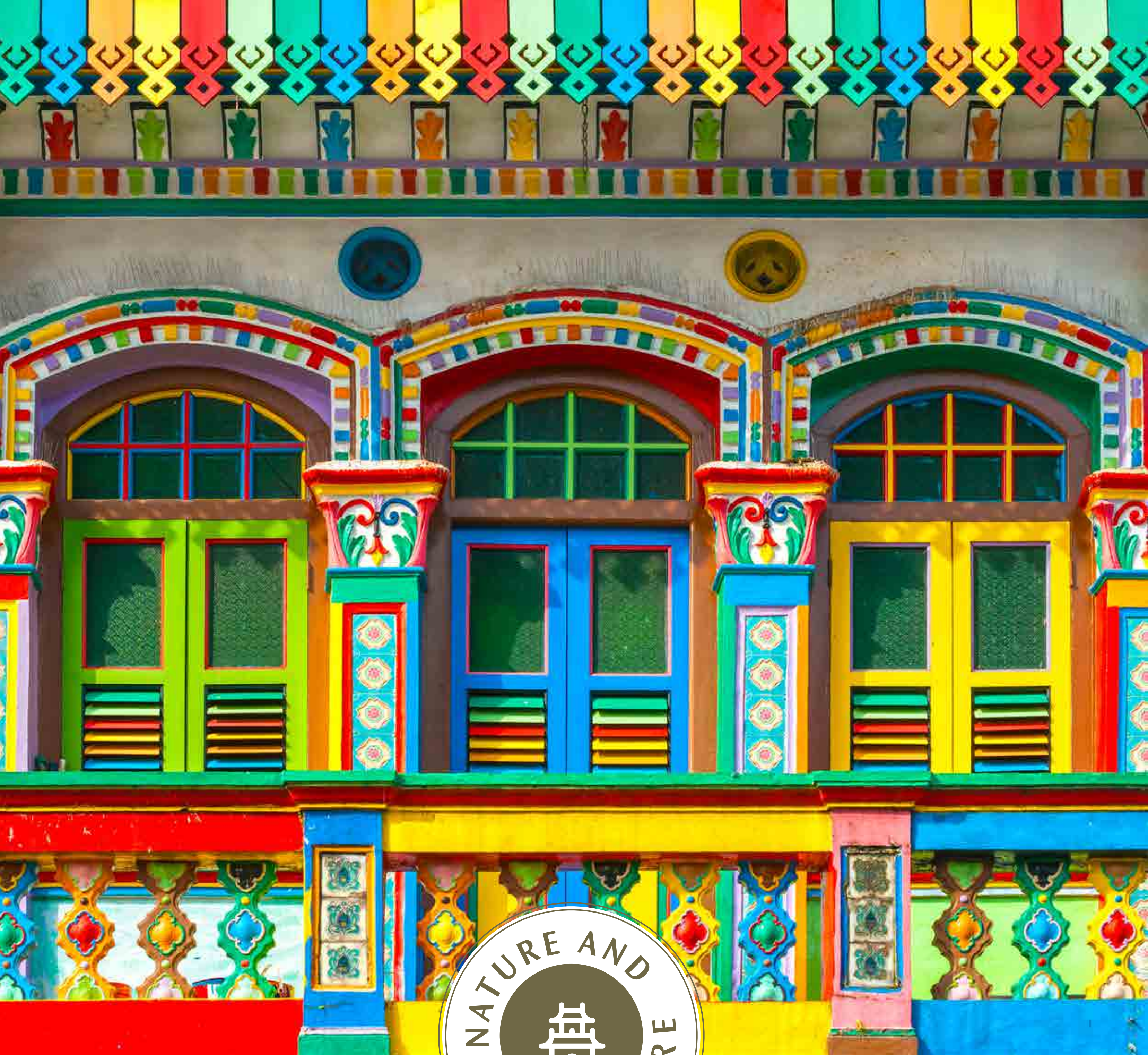
Nanyang
Kopi
from
*Fossa
Chocolate*



Sugee financiers
from *Violet Oon*



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A MARRIAGE OF CULTURES

Singapore's multiculturalism is one of its most prized charms – and also its most aesthetically pleasing. The city's ethnic neighborhoods are a testimony to this diversity, and must-visits for any tourist.





KAMPONG GLAM

Explore Singapore's Malay Muslim heritage in Kampong Glam. Once home to the sultan's palace, it's now a buzzing neighbourhood with cafés, halal eateries and shops that sell everything from hipster fashion to Persian carpets. The core of the area is the gold-domed Sultan Mosque, close to the Malay Heritage Centre, a former palace.



Try the nasi padang eateries where you can choose from a variety of Malay dishes. **Hajjah Maimunah** and **Warung Nasi Pariaman** are especially popular.



CHINATOWN

A historical gathering spot for the waves of Chinese immigrants that settled in Singapore, Chinatown is a sprawling area, home to medicine halls, tea shops, murals and temples, such as the stunning Buddha Tooth Relic Museum. These traditional attractions rub shoulders with some of Singapore's most popular cocktail bars and restaurants.



There are a staggering number of places to eat here, but to try a bit of everything, explore the stalls around the pedestrian-only **Chinatown Food Street**.





LITTLE INDIA

An area of commerce since the 19th century, Little India is bursting with colors and flavors. Explore the vegetable sellers of Tekka Centre, the South Indian eateries off Serangoon Road, the handicrafts along Campbell Lane – and many houses of worship such as Abdul Gafoor Mosque and Sri Veeramakaliamman Temple.



Enjoy a full South Indian spread in serene, air-conditioned surroundings at **Podi & Poriyal**. Come in the evening for Indian-inspired cocktails and light bites.



TIONG BAHRU

Singapore's oldest public housing estates, the lowrise Art Deco apartment blocks – many of which have been gazetted for conservation – make Tiong Bahru one of Singapore's most desirable residential areas. Its charm also lies in its warrens of winding lanes and how hip new restaurants and boutiques rub shoulders with traditional counterparts.



Tucked in a quiet backstreet, **Por Kee Eating House** is a longstanding traditional zhi char (stir-fry restaurant), serving classics such as cereal prawn and chilli crab.



CIVIC DISTRICT

A vital port city of the British Empire, Singapore has retained and conserved an impressive collection of colonial-era buildings, many of which are located in the Civic District. The National Gallery Singapore is perhaps the biggest example, but equally stunning are Victoria Theatre, St. Andrew’s Cathedral and the iconic Raffles Hotel.



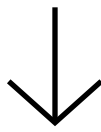
Once a Catholic convent, **Chijmes** is now a bustling F&B destination with dozens of global restaurants and bars. Try Singaporean seafood at New Ubin Seafood.

“A historical facet of Kampong Glam that isn’t readily apparent is that there was a huge publishing industry here, where editors, writers and intellectuals thrived and produced books that promoted the Malay language as well as religious literature.

Kampong Jawa in Kampong Glam was known as 'the other High Street' in Singapore. It was a buzzing cosmopolitan enclave popular with locals, while the High Street in City Hall saw more Europeans.

It was so prominent that a song was recorded in 1956 called Singapura di Kampong Jawa (Singapore in Kampong Jawa), in which the singer crooned about it being a microcosm of Singapore's ethnic diversity and mercantile spirit.”

— **Khir Johari**, food historian
and author of *The Food of Singapore Malays*



Spotlight on fashion

3 contemporary labels from Singapore to watch out for



Ong Shunmugam

A contemporary label that draws inspiration from Asian motifs, Ong Shunmugam rose to fame with modern takes on classic silhouettes like the cheongsam. Recently, the brand has branched out into rattan home décor and a menswear line featuring bold tropical prints.



Lisa Von Tang

Globally minded and focused on sustainability, this Singapore label produces quietly dramatic eveningwear such as jumpsuits, jackets, dress shirts and gowns made from hemp, bamboo, organic cotton and bio-fibers from crop waste.



Baju by Oniatta Effendi

Modernizing the time-honored garments worn by women from Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia, such as the baju kurung and the kebaya, Baju by Oniatta Effendi uses cotton-silk, linen and batik to create casual tropical glamor.

More amazing experiences around the network at [Sawasdee.thaiairways.com](https://www.sawasdee.thaiairways.com)





HIGH SPIRITS

One of Asia's great cocktail cities, Singapore is home to innovative bars that deliver a winning combination of stunning interiors, original cocktails and sustainable practices. Whether you're a fan of light and fruity or heavy and spirit-forward, these watering holes aim to please.





ANALOGUE

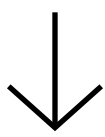
A follow-up to the beloved Native cocktail bar on Amoy Street, Analogue espouses the principles of sustainability. There's a 3D-printed bar top, a 100% plant-based menu and innovative cocktails that feature ingredients such as blue spirulina, moringa and mushroom jerky. It's also located in the leafy and historic Chijmes compound.

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ATLAS

Dress to the nines and relive the glory days of The Great Gatsby at this over-the-top glamorous Art Deco space with vaulted ceilings and over 1,000 varieties of gin. You can order a martini from every decade in the 20th century. Not into alcohol? You can still enjoy the space when you come for the high tea experience.

PHOTOS BY ANALOGUE, ATLAS





SAGO HOUSE

Nestled in an old shophouse in Chinatown, this casual bar is serious about building things with their own hands – whether that’s the cocktails, the upcycled wood interiors or the handpainted murals. The cocktail and food menu rotates weekly and often features local ingredients.

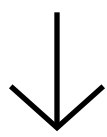
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NUTMEG & CLOVE

A stone’s throw from the late-night eats around Purvis Street, Nutmeg & Clove celebrates the flavors and heritage of Singapore in its menu. Cocktails have names such as Garden City (gin, musk melon, shiso, lime, honey) and For the Love of Kueh (inspired by Singapore’s delicious Malay and Peranakan sweets).



PHOTOS BY SAGO HOUSE, NUTMEG & CLOVE





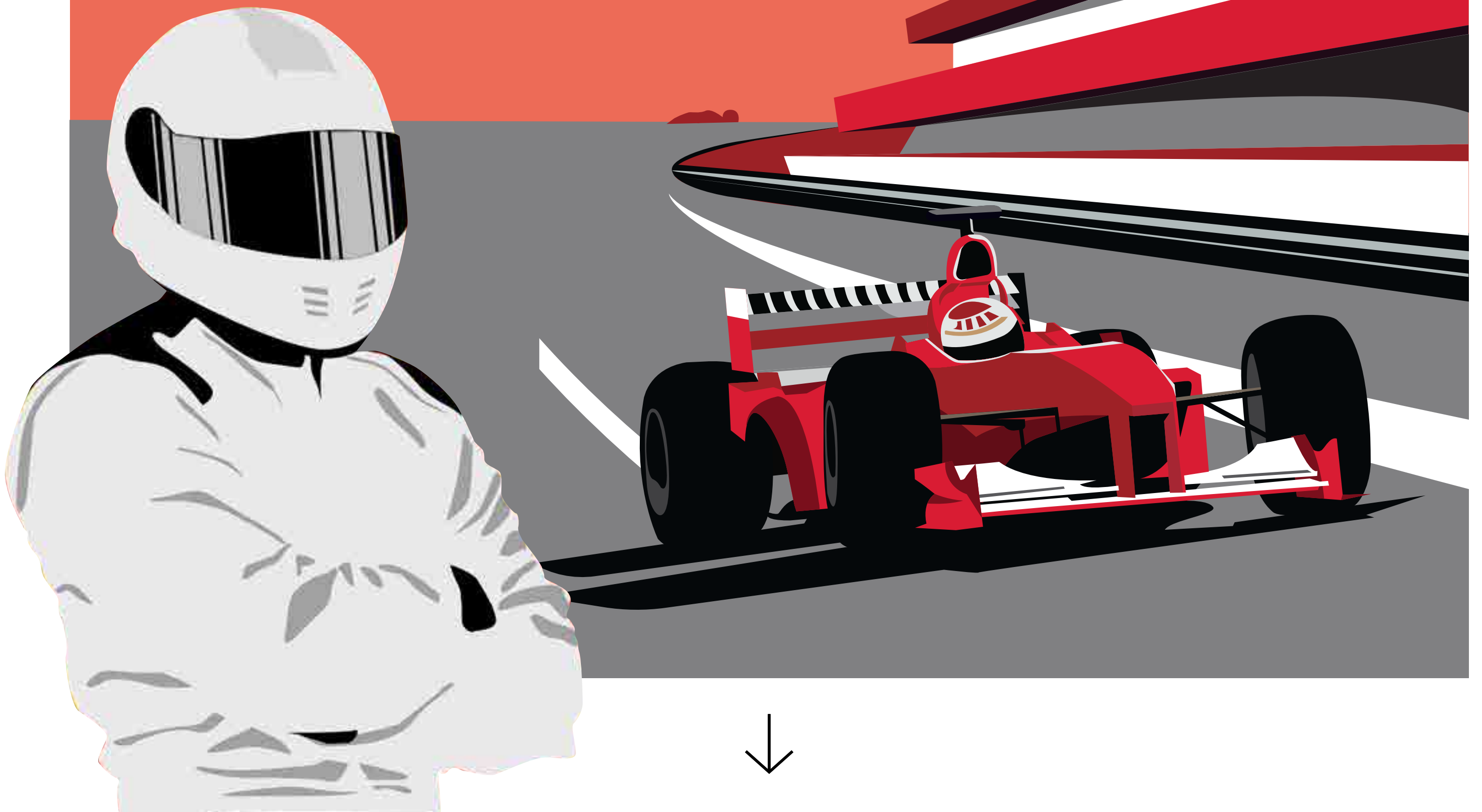
JUNGLE BALLROOM

The newest bar in town, this late-night spot tucked away at the Mondrian Hotel pays an upscale tribute to the California tiki bars of the 1970s. The creative cocktail menu is divided into layers of a tropical jungle. Stay late to enjoy a regular roster of laidback DJs.

Need for Speed

The hotly anticipated annual **F1 Singapore Grand Prix** sees the picturesque city center turn into a nighttime racing track. The evenings are packed with star-studded concerts and afterparties. Expect to see Robbie Williams, Kings of Leon, Groove Armada and other acts take the stage this year.

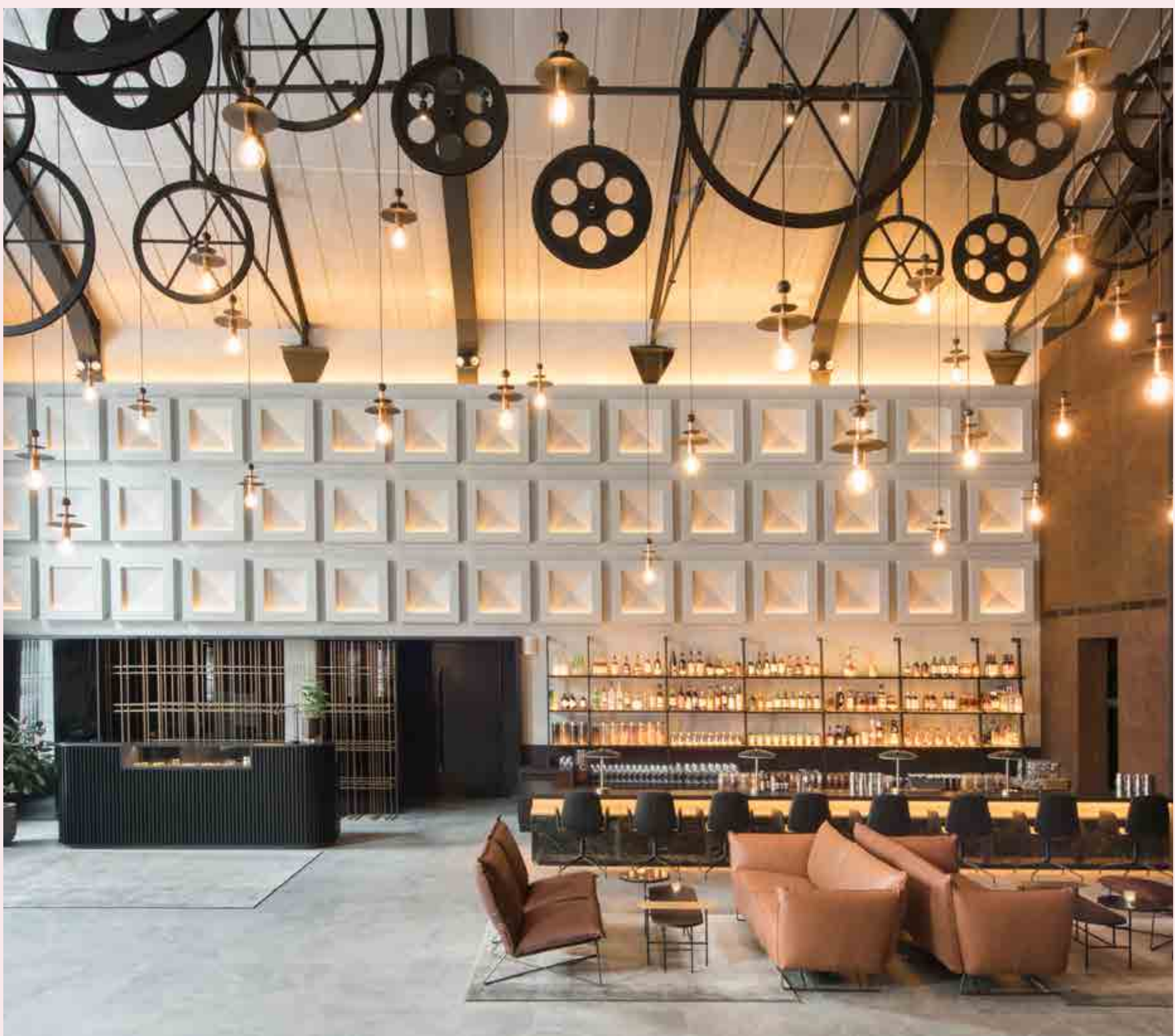
15–17 September



Where to stay

You don't need a guide to tell you about Singapore's iconic hotels such as the Raffles, the Fullerton and, of course, Marina Bay Sands. For a more boutique stay, check out one of these no less luxurious alternatives.

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The Warehouse Hotel

Situated in a row of converted warehouses along the Singapore River, The Warehouse Hotel offers 37 rooms and suites, each with its own unique architectural features and modern amenities. Po restaurant serves upscale Singaporean classics, while the Lobby Bar has Asian-inspired cocktails served in a high-ceilinged space with exposed brick and leather sofas.





The Scarlet Hotel

This award-winning design-forward boutique hotel comprises 13 19th-century shophouses and a 1924 Art Deco building on the edge of the buzzing Club Street area. The rooms are filled with understated personality, Art Deco touches and mod-cons such as flatscreen TVs and free WiFi. Have a cozy drink at their Barouv rooftop bar.

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The Maxwell Reserve Hotel

Colonial elegance meets Indian royalty in this 100-year-old heritage building in Singapore's Tanjong Pagar area. Expect lush textiles, vintage photos and luxury touches in your room. Check out the on-site restaurants: Shikaar, a modern restaurant paying tribute to Indian opulence, and the plant-based, gluten-free café Cultivate.

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