

LIFE . EXTRAORDINARY

SINGAPORE TATLER

June 2015



#ITGIRL IN PARIS

72 HOURS IN THE
CITY OF LIGHTS
WITH KIM LIM



Design Destinations

Oozing chicness and boasting artsy, creative locales, these luxury hotels are worth the trip in themselves

SIAM STYLE

CHIANG MAI

The Land of Smiles is fast becoming a quick getaway for Singaporeans from the hustle and bustle of everyday life, and the opening of Akyra Manor Chiang Mai provides yet another alternative for a relaxing vacation. Located in the buzzy, worthy boulevard of Chiang Mai's Nimmanhaemin Soi 9, this neighbourhood is reminiscent of quiet Williamsburg in New York's Brooklyn. The resort-style establishment touts an elusive "outyard-within-a-room concept", where each room has its own individual bathtubs to give guests an outdoor feel while indoors. With bespoke guided tours that highlight an authentic Chiang Mai experience connecting with the locals, the contemporary hotel is set to become the newest hit in town. theakrya.com/chiang-mai



LA VIE EN ROGUE

PARIS

Once a seedy area known for its bordellos and cabarets, Paris' South Pigalle has become a hip district filled with refined cocktail bars and fashion boutiques. Enter the Mission Rouquet, which opened in March. The mansion has been transformed into a sumptuous boutique hotel by renowned French interior designer Jacques Garcia. The result is an exclusive 20-room property filled with decadent yet tasteful bourgeois—red walls, gold and peacock-leather print detail, beautiful artwork, stained-glass windows and dark woods. mansionrouquet.com



PRIME CHOICE

LONDON

The newly refurbished London Marriott Hotel Park Lane on the corner of Oxford Street and Park Lane offers bespoke personal services that embodies the quintessential Mayfair elegance. The hotel is decked in shades of white, dove grey and tawny and complemented by luxe leather, soft silk, solid wood and beautiful marble, and a the collection of British art. At your doorstep are some of the best eats and upscale shopping on Mount Street and Duke Street, while the British Museum, Victoria and Albert Museum, and Buckingham Palace are a short stroll off. marriott.com

PHOTOS COURTESY: THE AKRYA, LA VIE EN ROGUE, MARRIOTT



OPPOSITES ATTRACT

HELSINKI

Crowned World Design Capital in 2012, Helsinki is electric with creativity with its up-and-coming designers and budding arts scene. Nestled in the heart of Helsinki is Finland's first Design Hotel, Kaisu V— a high-concept boutique hotel that fuses the old with the new. Taking inspiration from both Finland's classic 19th-century

poetry Kalevala and current Scandinavian minimalism, the luxurious design-oriented hotel has a subtle 1950s influence. The 171-room abode boasts four themes: mystical, passion, desire and envy, with the eatlators featuring the iconic loy charm of Nordic designs while rooms feature a softer and warmer touch. kaisuhotel.com



MARKEDLY CHIC

NEW YORK CITY

What used to be a historic hotel in 1927 has undergone a facelift in 2009 to become one of New York's best contemporary luxury hotels—The Mark, with its seamless amalgamation of uptown Upper East Side panache and downtown chic has captured the hearts of seasoned travellers. Located in the upscale neighbourhood of Madison Avenue, the 150-room establishment boasts modernist black-and-white furnishings in the lobby with equally opulent suites. themarkhotel.com

SOMETHING NEW

Luxurious boutique hotels provide a comfortable and stylish stay, but the crux of a getaway is the unique shopping you can't get at home—check out these hip shopping districts beyond run-of-the-mill luxury stores

THAILAND

(Design District, pictured below) for a mix of specially designed unique creations by young local designers as well as established Finnish design brands. Comprising a series of 25 streets and 150 shops, the district houses jewelers, art galleries, museums, boutiques and antique shops, soak up some creative juices to rejuvenate and get inspired.

NEW YORK CITY

The well-travelled is no stranger to the City that Never Sleeps. The new hotspots to explore are in the Lower East Side for cutting-edge and increasingly upscale boutiques speaking in

PARIS

the latest cuts to turkey retro accessories.

LONDON

Bond Street and Mayfair are London's answer to designer brands, but with Duchess of Cambridge Kate Middleton favouring high-street stores like Zara, H&M and Primark, more street-style boutiques are sprouting up in the heart of London. The Newburgh District features indie start-ups and nouveau bohemian fashion stores—the next McQueen might just be hidden in this map of boutiques.

HELSINKI

For the avant-garde fashionista, check out Helsinki's Design District



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