



Cosy couples can cuddle in cabins exclusively crafted from natural materials



Romance is in the air at Philea Resort & Spa Melaka

Hospitality with a heart

Glamorous getaways for honeymooning holidaymakers around the region

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You've borrowed something old and something blue, walked the aisle and threshold too, so why not take a trip to someplace new? Shunning the impersonal, interchangeable spaces of conventional hospitality houses, a new wave of concept hotels is drawing more and more vacationers in the market for memorable moments.

Described by UK-based Thomas Cook Group as a controlled, consistent experience based on a clear collection of customer criteria, a more romantic review might regard



Philea's piece de resistance is the Romantic Break Package

such resorts as simply offering seasonal sightseers a certain *je ne sais quoi* to remember them by.

While boutique hotels may cater for the current craze of no-frills chic, concept hotels don't skimp on the scenery and sex appeal, offering luxurious lodgings themed to tantalise. So next time you're planning a well-deserved recreational retreat, why not consider ...

Philea Resort & Spa Melaka

Romance is in the air at this rustic refuge in the heart of Malaysia, with Pavilion Rooms and postcard-perfect panoramas to please the eyes of placid passersby. Lighthearted lovers can stroll through 15 acres of luxuriantly landscaped grounds, or cuddle in cabins exclusively crafted from natural materials, including pine logs and marble ported from nearby Perak.

The star of the show is the Romantic Break Package, a two-day one-night treat in tropical tranquility complete with a candlelit dinner served on the veranda.

Cosy couples are welcomed to their rooms by scattered rose petals, with complimentary massages to soothe away the stress of the world outside.

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"This year, we're also celebrating our fifth year anniversary till next month, with a range of offers for guests to enjoy. Those seeking a short getaway with loved ones can take advantage of our anniversary package at only RM555 per night, while those who stay for a minimum of five nights will receive an additional complimentary night," says Philea assistant MarCom manager Tee Mei Fong.

Those wracked with wanderlust might walk in wonder among Philea's scenic sights, such as a man-made waterfall set amid more than 3,000 carefully cultivated trees. Philea's room capacity includes 201 units, and the resort's gymnasium and sauna are currently undergoing renovation to further enhance visitor experiences.

Hotel Muse Bangkok

Stylish sojourners with an affection for alluring aesthetics can't miss this gorgeous gem, hidden in one of Southeast Asia's most captivating capitals. Much like the mythical maiden it evokes, Hotel Muse at once embodies and inspires creative endeavour, recreating the social and artistic milieu of *fin-de-siècle* Europe and 19th-century Thailand.

"There is absolutely nothing like it when it comes to interior design. As you walk



through the front doors, you walk back in time, and people love it. The attention to detail even extends to our staff uniforms and restaurants and bars. Speakeasy, our rooftop bar, is all about the American prohibition, and Babette's Steak House is linked to Chicago's gangster era," says Hotel Muse general Manager Nicolas Peth.

Encompassing all things occidental, oriental and opulent, the establishment's eye-catching elegance and charming concept account for its skyrocketing visibility,

drawing guests from around the globe to soak in its sumptuous spectacle. Suave sophistication is the order of the day, with every element dedicated to the pursuit of pure pleasure.

Hotel Muse incorporates 174 rooms which exude classic European signatures adorned with ornate Asian motifs, with suite categories named for higher Dhevas in Buddhist cosmology. The building rises above one of Bangkok's most desired residential districts, giving a bird's-eye view of the surrounding metropolis.

"Muse is busy all year round, but in Bangkok, the quietest time is from April to mid-July. Later this year, we're planning to cover one of our small terraces on the 24th floor, for an executive lounge during the day and a very trendy themed bar during the evening," concluded Peth. ☞

