

## BACKGROUNDER

### The Right Room: What's In It For You?

A weekend beach getaway with friends, staycation, romantic holiday, or a business trip – all of us travel for different reasons all the time. While each holiday brings about different experiences and memories, a key common topic is whether we picked the right hotel and the right room. A survey\* done by AsiaRooms.com shows that 1 out of 3 Singaporeans believes that the hotel room can make or break the trip.

Before a holiday, planning and research always comes in useful. Know the purpose of your trip – are you there to relax by the pool or beach, shop in the malls, or venture around town ticking off all the must-sees? Who you are travelling with – family, friends, or your partner – also makes a difference, as these will affect what kind of accommodation you pick. Finally, having in mind a budget will then help you narrow down the choice of your final destination.

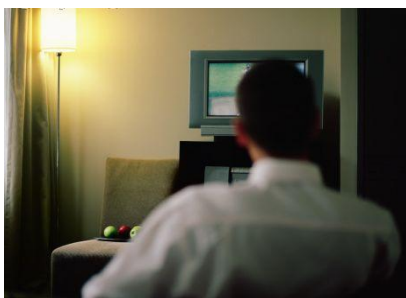
There's never too much you can know about the hotel you're staying at. A great way to start is by looking at reviews of like-minded travellers who have been there, done that. AsiaRooms.com takes pride in the authenticity of our reviews, and we encourage all travellers to put their true reflections up – good or bad – so that this can help others planning for their trip.

### The Romantic Couple

Nothing beats a room with a great view when you are on holiday with your significant other. Whether it is a honeymoon trip, or simply spending time together overseas, there is no better feeling than drawing the room curtains to discover a magnificent, almost-magical view. While popular votes place Krabi and Bali at the top spots, other hidden finds such as Danang in Vietnam are increasing in appeal. Importantly, do your research and find out which location fits your needs. You might want to do some sea-sports with your partner, or even go for romantic candlelight dinners during the holiday.



### The Jet-Setter



Living your life out of hotel rooms has become the norm, and you rely on technology to help keep you connected to both work and your loved ones back home. Ensuring that the hotel provides Wi-Fi service (preferably complimentary) is a high priority on your checklist. Having a reliable housekeeping service to do your laundry promptly for you before you fly off the next day is also another point for consideration. Amidst your hard work, do take a while to relax and enjoy the treats offered in the mini bar. Or

better yet, order in some room service so you get to enjoy the local delights!

## The Fun-loving Family

Planning the accommodation for family trips can be quite a headache – everyone has their preferences of who they want to room with and what they want to do. What better way to solve this than booking an entire villa so that everyone stays literally, under one roof? Having a swimming pool could make way for some family fun, while a barbecue pit could be the best excuse for an epic barbecue session. Mum will be on the lookout for spa facilities or even the big bathtub in the toilet, while Dad will be keeping his eyes peeled for any sign of lush greenery to practice his golf swing. Look out for destinations which offer a whole range of fun for everyone, even a games area for the kids!



## The Group of Friends



Travelling in a group may be fun and exciting, but sleeping next to someone else might be a totally new experience. Therefore, you might want to request for separate twin-sharing beds in your booking. In-room entertainment is important to break the silence, so do a quick scan of the channels available as this could come in handy for some late-night entertainment (free cable!). It also wouldn't harm to do a test-flush or two upon entering the toilet

as this could save on potential embarrassment and inconvenience later on. Of course, friends who travel together would also be on the lookout for activities, so do some research beforehand to pick your hotel. You may want something that is right smack in the heart of the city's nightlife to have an awesome party or go for a hotel in the outskirts that may be closer to the outlet stores of major brands for a great shopping session. Importantly, in today's tech-savvy generation, most of us carry multiple gadgets – mobile phones, convenient tablet PCs and MP3 players. Therefore, ensure that you store everything properly in your hotel room safe to get ready for a full day of touristy action.

## The Staycationer

When you're looking for a home away from home, a change of scenery and setting is always important. Boutique hotels often offer a theme for us to escape into a different world, even if just for that one night. Ensure that the bed is soft enough to your liking, while the pillows are fluffy and sufficient to give you a good night's sleep. Go for hotels that are known for their special features, such as the eclectic furniture and open concept of the suites at klapsons, The Boutique Hotel, or the different themes of the rooms at Hotel Re!.



Image courtesy of klapsons, The Boutique Hotel

With these different aspects we look out for when we travel, each trip will produce a unique set of experiences and memories. Therefore, plan well in advance to ensure that you pick the right room. Once there, soak in the different sights and sounds so that your vacation is one that you truly enjoy. Happy travelling!