



LIFESTYLE ASIA

Thursday, 24 September 2020

Suite Staycation: Wake up to excellent cityscape views at the Mandarin Oriental KL



There's nothing quite like waking up to the view of the Petronas Twin Towers towering above you when you stay at the Park Suite in the Mandarin Oriental KL.

If you're like us, you're probably having doubts on planning for a holiday out of the Klang Valley, for fear that another COVID-19 cluster might appear. You still want a getaway, though. Thank goodness for staycations. It's time to put all that money you've squirrelled away for a holiday out of the country to good use by splurging on a staycation in an upscale suite right in the city.

And that was exactly what I got to experience in [Mandarin Oriental KL](#) recently. Perched 30 floors up yet right below the imposing Petronas Twin Towers, the Park Suite was precisely what I needed to experience the luxe side that the KL city centre has to offer.

The location

Make no mistake — you're going to be on the good side of town. It's right next to Suria KLCC and a short walking distance towards [Malaysia's best bar](#). It's also right at the fringes of the KLCC Park, should you decide you need a spot of nature. The zipcode here is one of the best, and you're nowhere near the gritty part of KL where you walk around in fear of being accosted.

That said, if you're here for a staycation over the weekend, I really don't see why you feel the need to leave the hotel — allow me to explain.

The room

The Park Suite is located on the 30th floor of the hotel — also its highest floor. The corner room measuring at 883 sqft offers expansive views of the KLCC Park, the musical fountain of Suria KLCC, and of course, the Petronas Twin Towers looming above you. The one-bedroom suite was refurbished less than two years ago, hence the amenities are pretty modern. The TV comes with Apple AirPlay, so you can connect pretty easily to watch on both TVs in the living room and the bedroom. A fair warning though: Netflix has stopped implementing AirPlay from the mobile app. However, you can still use a Macbook for that.

Its design, on the other hand, maintains the Mandarin Oriental brand of old-world luxury with a splash of colour and print in textiles. The living area is spacious enough to host several friends, and when you need privacy, just shut the door to your bedroom.





Guests of the Park Suite has access to the Club Lounge (hello afternoon tea and evening cocktails), as well as a 20% discount on treatments at The Spa, located on the third floor.

Personally, the star of my staycation was just being in the suite and soaking up the views. After all, it's not every day that you get to vacation in a nice suite in the city.

The refreshments

I started off my stay by heading to Lounge In The Park for my evening [cocktails](#) — Club Lounge privileges. As the Club Lounge on the 24th floor was currently under renovation, we got to redeem our Club Lounge benefits from the Lounge In The Park instead. Not that I'm complaining, especially when I'm seated right across the KLCC Park.

Several glasses of wine later, it was time for dinner at Aqua Restaurant & Bar, situated on the third floor right by the [poolside](#). The ambience here is casual and balmy with a nice breeze. With the entire cityscape all lit up around us, it was certainly a spectacular sight.



Aqua Restaurant & Bar.

The speciality at Aqua Restaurant & Bar these days are the [pizzas](#), which have been specially curated by Chef Luigi Stinga. You can't go wrong with a basic Margherita pizza, which we had. Charmed by the first slice, I went ahead to order the Pizza Frutti di Mare, an assorted seafood pizza with a classic base of organic tomatoes and oregano. It was rich with the flavours of the sea, balanced out with the acidity of tomatoes. As for the dough? It was soft and crusty in all the right places. The restaurant is also known for its tapas and cocktails — be sure to order yourself a Junglebird, a classic tiki cocktail made in Malaysia.

Since buffets are no longer a thing in the world of COVID-19, the [breakfast buffet at Mosaic](#) has since taken a different turn. Rather than flit your way through the buffet options, you now request for your dish of choice and have it served to you.

If it's Chinese fare that you wish to have, Lai Po Heen is definitely the restaurant to visit in the Mandarin Oriental KL. Even on a weekday afternoon, the restaurant was bustling with patrons, both guests and non-guests. Other than dim sum, the restaurant also specialises in Cantonese cuisine. You won't run out of things to try.



Lai Po Heen.

The relaxation

Due to the pandemic, treatments over at The Spa is unfortunately limited to only an hour. But that didn't stop me from trying out the famed [Biologique Recherche](#) facial treatment. The French skincare brand is most known for its P50 lotion, a hydrating and exfoliating lotion that contains lactic acid and salicylic acid to balance out the skin's pH levels, regulate oil production, brighten dark spots, even out the skin's texture, and help with acne. To say that it's a miracle in a bottle would be an understatement. Naturally, this bottle has gotten a cult following around the world.

Of course, the P50 lotion was all but one step in the many other Biologique Recherche products that would be used in the facial treatment. I was cleansed, exfoliated, treated on, and masked to perfection. The glow on my skin was undeniable afterwards — even a straight male could see it. Extraction, while a norm in many facial treatments, is missed here. This is all thanks to the [chemical exfoliating](#) lotion that's incorporated into the treatment. With this chemical exfoliant that works deep into my skin, there really is no need for harsh physical extraction of blackheads afterwards.

Despite not being able to experience the facial treatment to its fullest potential due to time restrictions, this little teaser was all I need to return for more, once the [Recovery MCO](#) is lifted.



A treatment room in The Spa.

Verdict

There's something about a luxury five-star hotel that provides you with service and amenity that a boutique hotel just can't. If it's upscale you want, then look no further than the Mandarin Oriental KL. With its prime location, spacious rooms, and upscale amenities, you can't go wrong with a staycation here.

The hotel is also set to have your decision that much easier to make with some staycation packages. There are three: the [Weekend Staycation by M.O.](#) (from RM415 per night), the [Staycation by M.O.](#) (from RM519 per night), and the [Suite Treat](#) package (from RM1,600 per night).

Now, go treat yourself.

(All images: [Mandarin Oriental KL](#))

(Source: <https://www.lifestyleasia.com/kl/travel/hotels-resorts/suite-staycation-mandarin-oriental-kl/>)