BEAUTIFUL HOTEL DESTINATIONS

Somewhere along the way, hotels have become rightful destinations on their own. Here are some that are currently on top of our wander list.

HOSHINOYA KARUIZAWA
Nagano, Japan

Seclusion is bliss when it comes to this mountainside ryokan resort. Guest pavilions in elevated locations look out to rows of treetops and glassy lakes through their expansive windows, and the best of which include a private stream flowing in from the river. This idyllic retreat 90 minutes away from Tokyo is one where residents wander through nature, soak in mineral-rich hot spring waters, and breathe in crisp air – perfect for meditation and finding serenity.

PERIVolas SANTORINI
Santorini, Greece

Santorini is always surreal, with its clutter of whitewashed houses on cliff tops and blue sea horizons that blend into the sky. Taking up Santorini’s unique 300-year-old caves that once housed fishermen and farmers and transforming them into luxurious individual suites, Perivolas makes a paradisiacal stay in a rather more heavenly island. The minimalist interiors and infinity pool in the unique cliff-edge architecture make an exquisite stay while you take in picturesque views.

AMANBAUGH
Jaipur, India

There’s something quite romantic about the pink marble and sandstone walls and graceful cupolas of Amanbagh’s palatial suites. Lying within reach of Sajjangarh National Park, the compound makes the perfect base for exploration of this ancient land. When weather allows, guests may make way to the hotel’s affable chinti, where a private chef and musician take head of your needs, while you lay on cushions overlooking the Ajbaghar valley.

EQ
Rebirth of an Icon

Once again joining the dazzling skyline of KL city, the newly reincarnated EQ – previously Equatorial – is back in a glassy new skyscraper. Just opened in March, EQ is still in its soft launch period, but we couldn’t wait any longer to step into its rose gold lobby to experience the new EQ for ourselves. What we loved was that you could find touches of Malaysian elements embedded in the hotel’s interior – from subtle songket details to car-red copper panels at the lobby, showcasing Malaysian festival activities from the yesterday where panning the walls like a museum piece. And so, the rest of the EQ experience begins...

DINING AT EQ

One would be spoilt for the gastronomic offerings at EQ, including returned originals like Nipah and Kampachi. Nipah, the hotel’s all-day dining spot, serves Pan-Asian cuisine using its preserved recipes that stood the test of time. Feast at Nipah’s buffet lunch where you can find fresh seafood and humble Malaysian delicacies like mamee-to-order roti canai and satay. And what would the dining scene at EQ be without Kampachi – where hotel guests can have an elevated a la carte experience at its Hinoki wood sushi counter. Enjoy bubbles and bites at the Bottega bar surrounded by a vault of gold and rose gold Bottega bottles.

SANCTUARY WELLNESS

Claim sanctuary on the 29th floor of the building, where you will find a spacious, fully-equipped gym for your metropolitan fitness needs. Or visit Sanctum spa for a retreat to the rainforest-inspired facilities – including a Himalayan salt sauna – and get a massage with the KL skyline surrounding you in one of its biggest therapy rooms. Otherwise, how does a dip in the infinity pool with the KL Tower in your sight sound?

UNBEATABLE ROOMS

Ascend through the rose gold lift to live the high life at EQ. The contemporary-chic interior in each room takes comfort a notch higher, making a lush space for you to rest. Wake up to the most coveted panoramic views of KL city (I opened my eyes to the Petronas Twin Towers). Rooms are spacious and sophisticated, whether it is a 55sqm premier room or 235sqm presidential suite that you choose for your pied-à-terre.

EQUATOR CLUB

Club floor guests will have access to the Equator Club lounge privileges – from the discreet and personalised check-in to the complimentary dry cleaning services and usage of the Equator Boardroom at your disposal. Be sure to have your complimentary breakfast, afternoon tea and evening cocktails at the lounge, with a panorama of KL city in your company.

EQ, Equatorial Plaza, Jalan Sultan Ismail, Kuala Lumpur, 50350 Kuala Lumpur