

TIGER TALES nov/dec 2008

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FUN FACT

With a total area of slightly under 700sq km, Singapore is among the 20 smallest countries in the world and is about 15,000 times smaller than the United States.



OUT AND ABOUT

◆ **Singapore Fairs**, (tel: +65 6332 3222, www.singaporefairs.com) While Singapore has an abundance of shopping centres, less well-known are the bazaars and fairs held throughout the year, which feature products sourced from exotic locations worldwide. To keep up with the latest happenings, visit the Singapore Fairs website and check out the calendar of events for Christmas shopping, or plan your next holiday around a stay at one of the many villas listed there.

◆ **The Nutcracker** (12-13 and 17-20 December, Esplanade Theatre, 1 Esplanade Drive, tel: +65 6828 8222, www.singaporedancetheatre.com) Follow the adventures of the precocious Clara and her beloved nutcracker on a magical Christmas Eve in this exquisite production of the holiday classic. *The Nutcracker* is one of

Tchaikovsky's most cherished works, featuring classic selections like "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" and "Waltz of the Flowers" – making it the perfect excuse for a family outing or romantic evening.



TOP SHOPS

◆ **Deli** (17 Jiak Kim Street, tel: +65 6738 2988, www.zoukclub.com) Singapore's favourite supperclub has expanded into retail with its new concept store, Deli. Instead of splurging on snacks, pick up a designer T-shirt from the Z.O.U.K. fashion label or zone out on Deli's in-house Maes and iPods, packed with tunes chosen by Zouk's resident DJs. Hungry clubbers can still grab a bite at Wine Bar or outdoor hotdog cart.



BEST BITES

◆ **Unopuro Trattoria and Bar** (01-06, 1 Nanson Road, tel: +65 6738 0061) Not in the mood for 4am hawker snacks? Try this new 24-hour trattoria. Dig into Roman-style Wagyu steaks and old-fashioned pasta dishes after a hard night of clubbing and pubbing. There's also a tantalising breakfast menu starting at 3am. \$\$

◆ **Canton Wok** (382 Joo Chiat Road, tel: +65 6285 6919) As the name suggests, this quaint bungalow-turned-restaurant specialises in Cantonese delicacies such as tender *brinjal* (eggplant) and tofu that melts in your mouth. Headed by Hong Kong-trained chef Ang Song Kang, Canton Wok has become a fast favourite among local residents. \$\$\$

◆ **The White Rabbit** (39C Harding Road, tel: +65 6473 9965) For an unforgettable splurge, give Dempsey Rd's quirkiest new addition a try. Nestled in an old church, The White Rabbit serves up old-world fare and old-fashioned cocktails with a chic twist, thanks largely to head chef Daniel Sia. This is definitely a place to see and be seen, so swing by for after-work drinks and soak in the vibe. \$\$



AFTER DARK

◆ **Que Pasa** (7 Emerald Hill Road, tel: +65 6235 6626) Enjoy a glass of vino at this time-honoured institution among the Emerald Hill shophouse-bars, or enjoy browsing through the exclusive "library collection" of premium wines from premium cellars. Que Pasa is the perfect place

to unwind after work or play, with a delicious tapas selection including mouth-watering, thin-crust pizzas.

◆ **The Toucan** (15 Duxton Hill, tel: +65 6223 5950) Drop by this no-frills Irish watering hole for a frothy pint of Guinness. Tucked away among the ranks of Duxton Hill KTVs, it's easy to overlook The Toucan – but it just might surprise you with its cosy pub garden and old-school Emerald Isle atmosphere. There is even a shuttle service from the Tanjong Pagar MRT station just for thirsty patrons.



SLEEPOVER

◆ **Pan Pacific Orchard** (10 Claymore Road) * Just steps from Orchard Road and a veritable smorgasbord of shopping, the five-star Pan Pacific Orchard offers the perfect blend of luxury and convenience. If hitting the shops isn't your thing, cool off by the mineral water pool which features state-of-the-art NASA-patented ionisation technology to ensure a luxurious, refreshing and ultra-clean swim. \$\$\$

BY ALEXIS ONG
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The insiders' guide to Expat Fairs, Bazaars and Markets in Singapore