

For those hankering after an antidote to the hurried pace of modern life, escape options are as varied as they come: a weekend jaunt to a private island, a mid-haul trek to an upscale resort, or even an expedition to the far-flung corners of the earth.

Or you can save yourself the hassle by simply calling Seven Palms home.
Located on the south-eastern tip of Sentosa Island, this exclusive development set on a sprawling 114,000 sq ft beachside site is far from the hustle and bustle of the urban jungle, yet close enough to partake in its cosmopolitan pleasures.

Indeed, it is a mere 15 minutes' drive from Singapore's Central Business District and the new Marina Bay downtown. And, while the city is made up of a dense urban fabric, here lush landscaping, unhindered

sea views and plentiful light and air allow a life of contemplative communion with nature - enough to calm even the most frazzled of nerves.

The development is designed by Australian architect Kerry Hill, highly regarded for his prestigious resorts.

Naturally, his rare sensitivity to the concept of space as a fundamental tenet of luxury is evident at Seven Palms.

Housed in three four-storey buildings, the 41 airy, spacious units are wrapped around a coconut grove. The view that opens to the sea is interjected by a 45m infinity-edge lap pool stretching the entire open side of the U-plan, offering a seamless visual trajectory to the waters beyond.

The other side of the development faces a broad expanse of the South China

Sea, with a private white-sand beach right at its doorstep. No other development at Sentosa Cove or elsewhere in Singapore can claim this privilege. A rare treat, then, for advocates of barefoot luxury.

"We have been working very hard at creating something very special and unique for Sentosa Cove," explains Simon Cheong, chairman and CEO of SC Global Developments. "The beachfront site is a gem. To step out of your residence and walk directly onto the beach is unique in urban Singapore. The allure of coastal living is truly captivating; nothing comes close to the hypnotic sound of waves washing the shoreline and balmy breezes floating inland throughout the day."

A defining feature of upscale resort architecture is the use of shaded, open-air

pavilions. At Seven Palms, this is manifested in a large open-ended portal that visually and physically connects the coconut grove to the beach. The portal also functions as a space that houses a luxuriously appointed beach club, complete with storage for water-sports equipment, a glass-walled gymnasium, and plenty of deck areas for lounging, yoga, catered events, or indulging in what the Italians describe as *il dolce far niente* – blissful idleness.

The private and exclusive Seven Palms features only large units ranging from 2,700 to 6,800 sq ft, in three-, four-, and five-bedroom configurations. All units have sea views from private decks.

Here, the architect also made innovative use of the pavilion concept:
By devising open layouts and minimising the use of internal walls, he succeeded in creating a space stretching from the timber deck at the front of the unit right through to the living and dining areas, and to a multi-purpose room capable of completely opening out to the rear.

The amount of day lighting allowed into the interior, or the level of privacy desired, can be controlled by the tilting and movable louvre panels at the front, and pivoted baffles at the rear that can direct views. This not only provides a very practical solution to comfortable living, but also creates an interesting animation to the facade throughout the day, as individual preferences change and dictate the position or angle of these devices.

Should a hint of restlessness prise you away from the blissful ambience of your private sanctuary, you'll find no shortage of cultural, sporting and epicurean adventures awaiting just beyond the gates.

After working on your handicap at the Sentosa Golf Club, spend the afternoon socialising at the glamorous Tanjong Beach Club, or savour the gastronomic delights of the award-winning Il Lido restaurant against the panoramic backdrop of the Singapore Strait. Later, indulge in signature treatments at the Capella Singapore's Auriga Spa. The choices are endless.

For more information, visit sevenpalms.com.sg

The Kerry Hilldesigned Seven Palms (left) brings barefoot luxury (below) closer than you can imagine.



