

## New Crowne Plaza Hotel opens at Singapore's Changi Airport

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The US\$60 million (S\$84 million) Crowne Plaza Changi Airport opened its doors today, offering guests a unique city-style resort experience and a few 'refreshing' special touches.

The first international upscale hotel to operate with direct access to Singapore's Changi Airport's Terminal 3, the new Crowne Plaza offers in-house guests an iPod loaded with a variety of music designed to soothe the travel-weary - or even a complete on-screen yoga routine - that can be slotted into the iPod docking station in every guest room.

Spa treatments also cater to the long-distance traveller, with jet-lag reflexology a feature of the spa menu.

And the 540-square-metre swimming pool, designed around landscaped 'mini-islands' and Jacuzzi corners, provides natural hideaways for the ultimate in relaxation.

Designed by multi-award winning Singapore-based architectural firm WOHA Designs, the 320-room Crowne Plaza Changi Airport reflects a uniquely Singaporean environment - tropical, Asian, multicultural and comfortable yet also efficient, stylish, high-tech and global in outlook.

The hotel features open corridors, courtyards and extensive rainforest-style gardens, creating a balmy tropical ambience. The unique architectural style even allows natural light to flow into the guest bathrooms.

Natural light also filters into the public areas through water-covered skylights over the lobby, ballroom and function room areas.

Crowne Plaza Changi Airport is linked to Terminal 3 by covered walkways from both the first and second floors of the hotel.

'Arriving guests can be at the hotel reception within minutes and in their rooms while many other passengers are still in the airport taxi queue,' said General Manager, Mr Mark Winterton. 'Access from Terminals 1 and 2 is also a breeze via the new automated People Mover System that links all three airport passenger terminals,' he added.

Commenting on access to other facilities, Mr Winterton said that corporate, MICE (Meetings Incentives, Conventions & Exhibitions), and transit travellers will appreciate the hotel's close proximity to Singapore Expo - the largest purpose-built exhibition and convention centre in Southeast Asia, Changi Business Park and world-class golf courses.

'And, with Singapore's downtown shopping and entertainment district within a 20-minute drive and easy access to most parts of the island via the Changi Airport Mass Rapid Transit station, the hotel really is a convenient place to stay,' he said.

Dining facilities include Azur an all-day dining restaurant built around a show kitchen concept, a 100-seat Crowne Plaza Club Lounge overlooking the hotel swimming pool, a Lobby Lounge that opens to a private garden, Bar '75 - a sports bar offering a variety of experiences with three distinct zones, and Imperial Treasure, a Chinese restaurant.

Banquet and meeting spaces total 950 square metres, and offer a 250-seat ballroom and seven function rooms fully equipped with state-of-the-art audio visual equipment and the services of a dedicated Crowne Meetings Director.

The opening of Crowne Plaza Changi Airport signifies InterContinental Hotel Group's (IHG) commitment to growing its brands in Singapore. IHG has three other properties in Singapore - InterContinental Singapore, Holiday Inn Atrium Singapore and Holiday Inn Park View Singapore.

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