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Lifestyle - Info-ed



Invisible Design 看不见的设计

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Singapore's transition from a fishing port to its endearment as 'the garden city' is no mean feat. Hidden in plain sight are deliberate design approaches with city-planning in mind. Follow us in our eight-part series 'Invisible Design' as we uncover good design within the common spaces, such as hawker centres and schools, in finding out how efficient design could affect our daily routine.

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Episode 1: MRT

The MRT is an indispensable mode of transport in Singapore, and its intricate system laid out all over Singapore is not of child's play, but an act of meticulous planning to bring about efficient travelling. Which MRT stations have the reputation of being the largest or deepest? How do art murals act as a guide for regular commuters? How MRT cabins can be used as emergency shelters?

Episode 2: Shopping Mall

Shopping malls are everyone's favorite place for leisure. Every shopping mall has their own unique layout, but all with a sole purpose to keep the exit far away from their shoppers. Singapore's shopping destination Jewel Changi is one such example! Where exactly is the support for Jewel Changi's dome and waterfall? How does complex infrastructure and marketing factor in consumer psychology?

Episode 3: Parks

Parks are places of recreational activities, but also the green lungs of Singapore's concrete jungle. What considerations are there for designers in designing amenities within a park in encouraging our young generation to be environmentally-conscious? How does the addition of therapeutic garden aid us in benefiting personal wellness? How does different pathways material guide us within a park?

Episode 4: Schools

Schools are an environment for education, and a cultivation ground for creativity and innovation. How does a school setting encourage students for self-learning? How does some school push forth a conscientious mind towards the environment in our younger generation? How did a local university achieve net-zero energy within its teaching facilities? Can conscientious design render aid in going green?

Episode 5: HDB

HDBs are homes to many Singaporeans, and we are one of the highest home ownership country in the world, with over a million housing units owned by the locals. How does the integration of housing and public amenities serve better for residents and Singaporeans? How does award-winning estate SkyTerrace@Dawson reinvigorate the heritage of Queenstown? What is the future for upcoming housing estates?

Episode 6: Hawker

Hawker centres hold a special place in Singapore's unique identity - a place not only for sustenance but social cohesion. Did you know that some hawker centres are built with special materials and infrastructure to factor in sustainability, convenience, and integration with the environment? What exactly is the reasoning behind permanent fixtures within a hawker centre?

Episode 7: Hotel

Hotels might be a frequent spot for travellers, but it is a representation for Singapore's hospitality. Amidst older hotels such as Raffles Hotel with a rich heritage and modern hotels such as Container Hotel, how can designers introduce innovation while preserving traditions? What environmental concerns can be factored in designing green spaces within hotels? Have you heard of 'shared hotel?'

Episode 8: Library

Libraries are spaces for self-learning, just within our city, there's a total of 27 public libraries! What magic could the sorting system possess in sifting out ten, if not, thousands of books daily? How exactly does library@Orchard utilise design to create a serene place for its users amidst a busy street? How do new libraries create an immersive environment for its users using modern technology?

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