



ART AND CRAFT COCKTAILS AT BAR VAGABOND

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14 Dec 2015

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When we initially heard about the Vagabond Bar we were intrigued by the name—something about it just sounded so compelling. Then when we heard about the concept of the Vagabond Hotel (where the bar is located), we were even more enticed to visit.

This luxury boutique hotel is the first and only hotel in Singapore to offer an artist-in-residence program, and in keeping with the artsy theme, they have created cool spaces where artists and art-lovers alike can mingle and let loose amid cutting-edge design and decor.

Bar Vagabond is part of the hotel's Salon, an area that features rich red furnishings, dark wood and gorgeous gold adornments like the life-sized tree that climbs up a pillar in the middle of the bar and spreads its leafy branches overhead, or the Egyptian monkey-god statue that holds fort behind the bar. Other accents include framed paintings and illustrations, round wood-topped tables with metallic elephant feet as a base, and cushy bar stools with back rests.

Award-winning drinks collective Proof & Co has help set up the bar, and together with bartender Mauricio Allende, they offer a huge range of craft cocktails made with artisan spirits and unique ingredients, as well as wines, whiskeys and beers. The drink menu is divided into the categories of contemporary and retro, so you can opt for a modern creation or their rendition of a classic cocktail.



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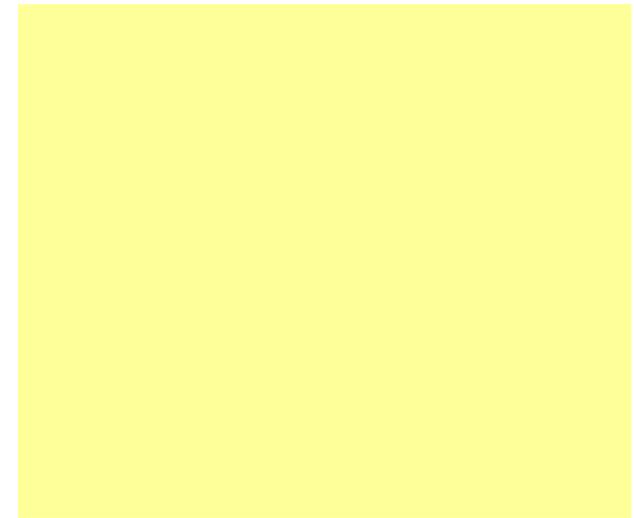
We tried a few different drinks, and the standouts for us were the **Ashes & Snow (\$20)** with plantation dark rum, charred pineapple lime, salt charcoal and chartreuse elixir. The mix sounded exciting and the drink was black in color and packed quite the punch. We also liked the **Katana (\$19)**, which was like a bloody mary made with Death's Door gin, tomato, wasabi, soy and avocado. You don't find drinks like this on too many menus in town.

We also checked out the restaurant next door, 5th Quarter by Loh Lik Peng. The ambiance was great, as was the music, and we really enjoyed the **Tomato, Burrata and Basil**. For dessert the **Chocolate Salami and Salted Caramel Ice Cream (\$16)** was also a real treat. We hear it's known more for the meats, so maybe we'll try that next time, but for now we prefer the bar for their fab drinks and cool atmosphere.

WHAT WE LOVE

You don't feel like Singapore when you're here. It feels more like a hip art-centric locale in London or New York. We went on a Friday night and they had an awesome DJ that kept us dancing all night. We think people are still finding out about it, but once they do it may become their new hangout. It's definitely already one of ours.

SUGGESTED FOR



A funky spot for when you're in the mood for innovative drinks that you won't find anywhere else and a hip vibe to socialise or get your party on.

Vagabond Hotel, 39 Syed Alwi Rd
Singapore 089737

Tel: +65 6291 6677

Hours: Daily: Noon - late

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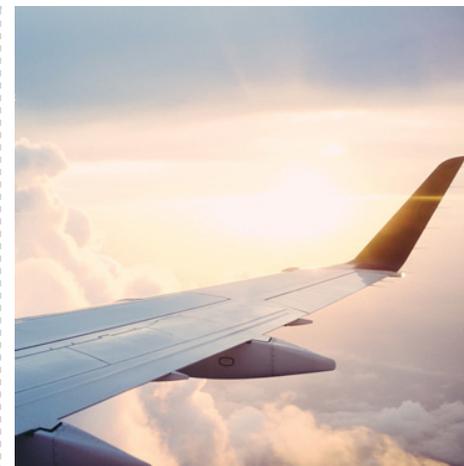
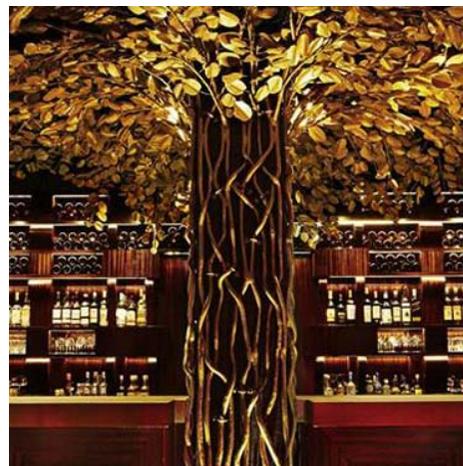
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